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MOTHER TERESA OF CALCUTTA

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MOTHER TERESA OF CALCUTTA

"HI, THE NAME'S NICK BUGATTI. I'M A STRINGER FOR WORLD CABLE NEWS, AND I'VE GOT TO TELL YOU SOMETHING-- BEIRUT IN AUGUST OF '82 WAS NOT EXACTLY LIKE PARIS IN THE SPRINGTIME, IF YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN."

"MATTER OF FACT, THE ONLY REASON I WAS THERE WAS BECAUSE WCN HAD SENT ME TO DO A FEATURE ON A WOMAN SOME PEOPLE CALLED A SAINT... AND OTHERS CALLED A FANATIC."

"ME, WITH ALL THE BOMBS AND BULLETS GOING AROUND, I JUST WANTED TO CALL IT QUITS!"

"BUT I HAD A JOB-- AND I WAS GOING TO DO IT!"

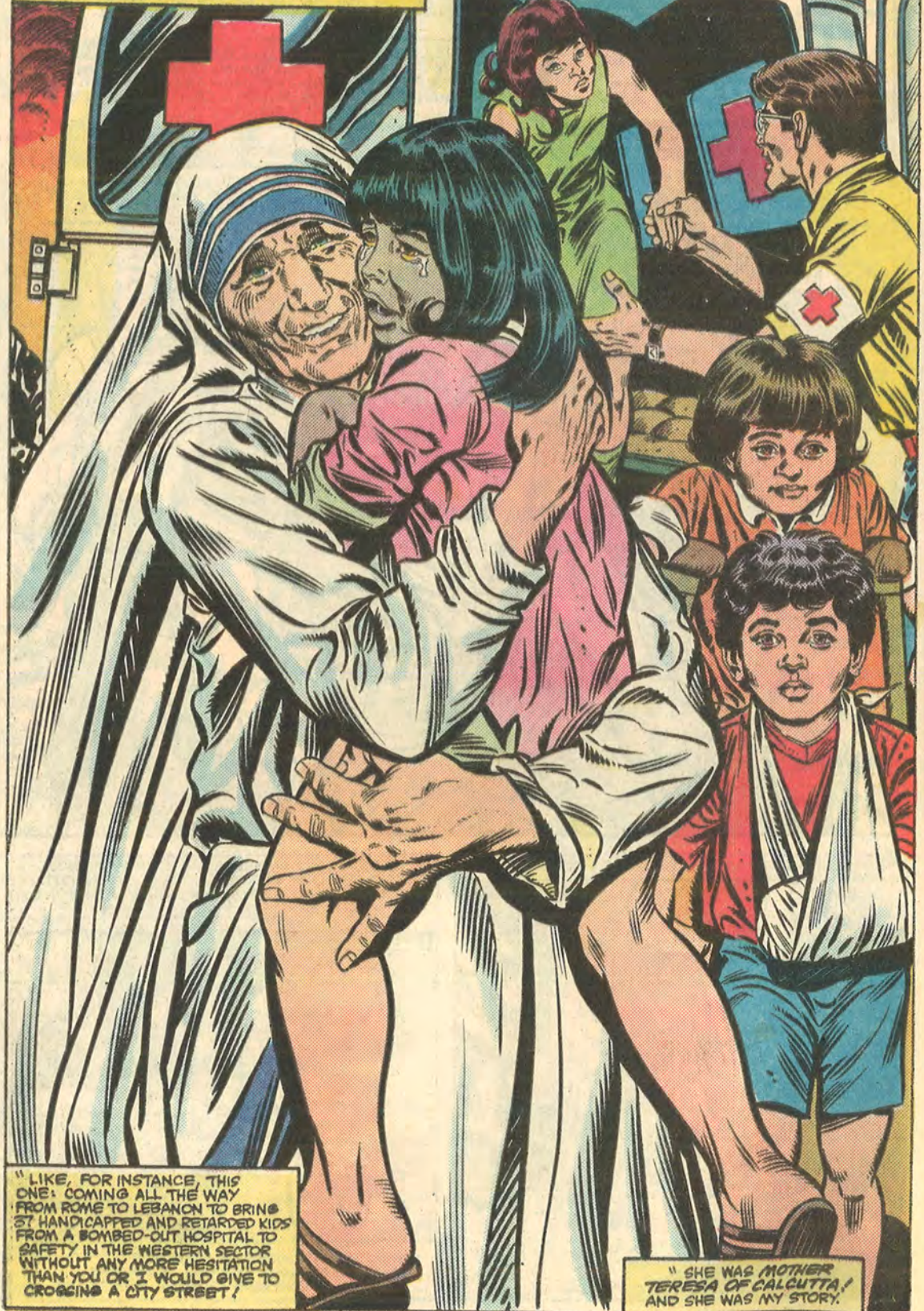
"LOOK! HERE THEY COME!"

"GET THE CAMERA ROLLING, MARTY!"

"THEY WERE CARRYING PATIENTS, VOLUNTEERS AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES ... AS WELL AS ONE VERY FAMOUS PASSENGER."

SCREECH

"MY FIRST IMPRESSION WAS THAT SHE WAS JUST AN ORDINARY WOMAN -- WHO HAD DONE SOME VERY EXTRAORDINARY THINGS."



"LIKE, FOR INSTANCE, THIS ONE: COMING ALL THE WAY FROM ROME TO LEBANON TO BRING 37 HANDICAPPED AND RETARDED KIDS FROM A BOMBED-OUT HOSPITAL TO SAFETY IN THE WESTERN SECTOR WITHOUT ANY MORE HESITATION THAN YOU OR I WOULD GIVE TO CROSSING A CITY STREET?"

"SHE WAS MOTHER TERESA OF CALCUTTA! AND SHE WAS MY STORY."



"AS THE CRYING CHILDREN WERE TRANSFERRED FROM AMBULANCES TO A HOSPITAL BUS..."



MOTHER TERESA! WHAT DID IT FEEL LIKE TO BE IN A WAR ZONE? WERE YOU AFRAID?

IS IT TRUE THAT YOU ORIGINALLY CAME HERE TO COMFORT YOUR MISSIONARY SISTERS IN BEIRUT?



YOU CLAIMED THAT THIS EVACUATION WAS BEING DONE "WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE PALESTINIANS AND EVERYONE -- THE WHOLE WORLD!"

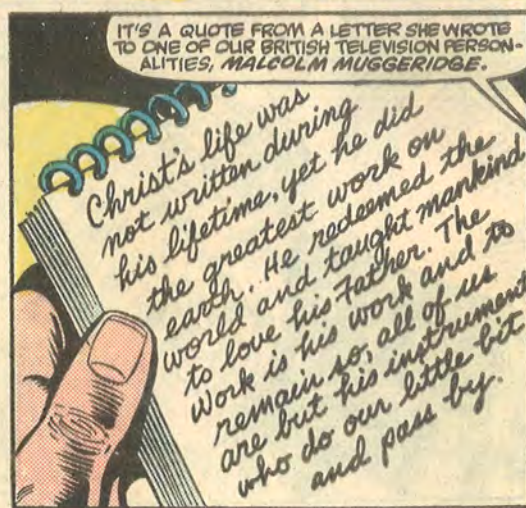
I CAN'T GIVE ANY INTERVIEWS NOW. YOU MUST UNDERSTAND.



HUH--?

WELCOME TO THE CLUB, MATE. I'M CRIBBINS, LONDON DAILY NEWS. BEEN FOLLOWING THAT LADY FOR SOME TIME MYSELF, AND SHE'S A TOUGH NUT TO CRACK.

HERE, MAYBE THIS COVER BLURB I GOT FOR MY SUNDAY ARTICLE WILL MAKE THINGS CLEARER.



IT'S A QUOTE FROM A LETTER SHE WROTE TO ONE OF OUR BRITISH TELEVISION PERSONALITIES, MALCOLM MUGGERIDGE.

Christ's life was not written during his lifetime, yet he did the greatest work on earth. He redeemed the world and taught mankind to love his Father. The work is his work and so remain so, all of us are but his instrument who do our little bit and pass by.



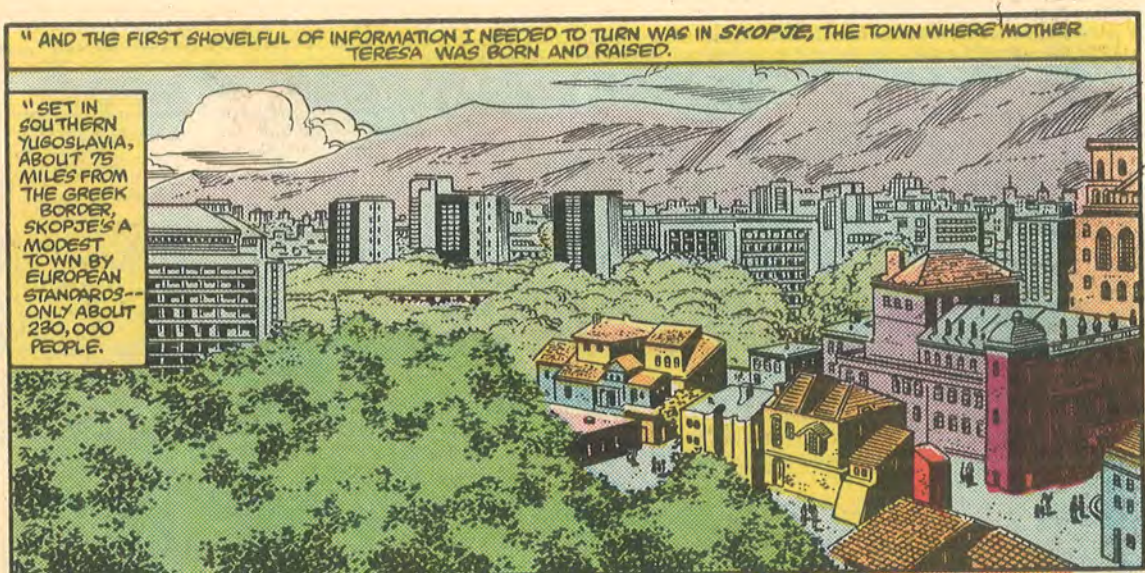
THAT'S WHY SHE DOESN'T USUALLY TALK TO US FOURTH ESTATE BLOKES. SEE YOU AROUND, MATE-- AND GOOD LUCK!

I DON'T GET IT. THIS WOMAN PULLS OFF THE PUBLICITY COUP OF THE DECADE-- AND SHE WON'T SAY WORD ONE ABOUT IT!



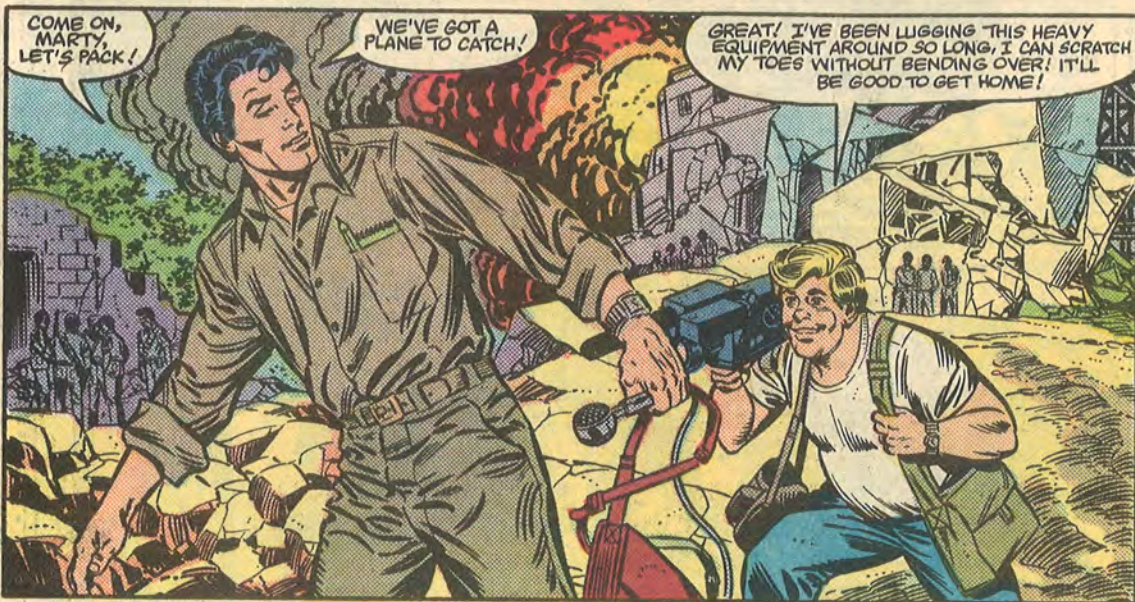
THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT MOTHER TERESA, SOMETHING UNUSUAL, AND MAYBE JUST A LITTLE BIT... SPECIAL.

AND THAT COULD BE AN EVEN BIGGER STORY THAN THE ONE I CAME HERE FOR!



" AND THE FIRST SHOVELFUL OF INFORMATION I NEEDED TO TURN WAS IN SKOPJE, THE TOWN WHERE MOTHER TERESA WAS BORN AND RAISED.

" SET IN SOUTHERN YUGOSLAVIA, ABOUT 75 MILES FROM THE GREEK BORDER, SKOPJE'S A MODEST TOWN BY EUROPEAN STANDARDS-- ONLY ABOUT 230,000 PEOPLE.



COME ON, MARTY, LET'S PACK!

WE'VE GOT A PLANE TO CATCH!

GREAT! I'VE BEEN LUGGING THIS HEAVY EQUIPMENT AROUND SO LONG, I CAN SCRATCH MY TOES WITHOUT BENDING OVER! IT'LL BE GOOD TO GET HOME!



WE'RE NOT GOING HOME. WE'RE GOING TO YUGOSLAVIA.

YUGO-- WHAT?!



" I'D DONE SOME BACKGROUND READING ON MOTHER TERESA BEFORE HEADING FOR BEIRUT-- AND I DID SOME MORE ON THE PLANE TO EUROPE.

" THERE HADN'T BEEN ALL THAT MUCH WRITTEN, AND A LOT OF IT WAS REPETITIVE. I KNEW I'D HAVE TO DIG.



" WE INTERVIEWED NEIGHBORS... RELATIVES OF NEIGHBORS; DESCENDANTS OF RELATIVES WHO VAGUELY REMEMBERED NEIGHBORS!

I RECALL THE GIRL, YES. SHE WAS A SWEET CHILD.

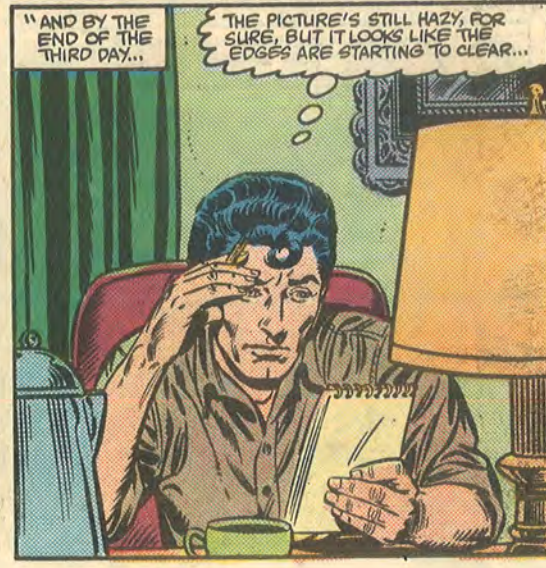


" WE TALKED TO MEMBERS OF THE CLERGY ABOUT CHURCH RECORDS...

SHE WAS ONE OF OUR MOST ACTIVE AND DEDICATED MEMBERS. SHE HAD SUCH ENTHUSIASM.



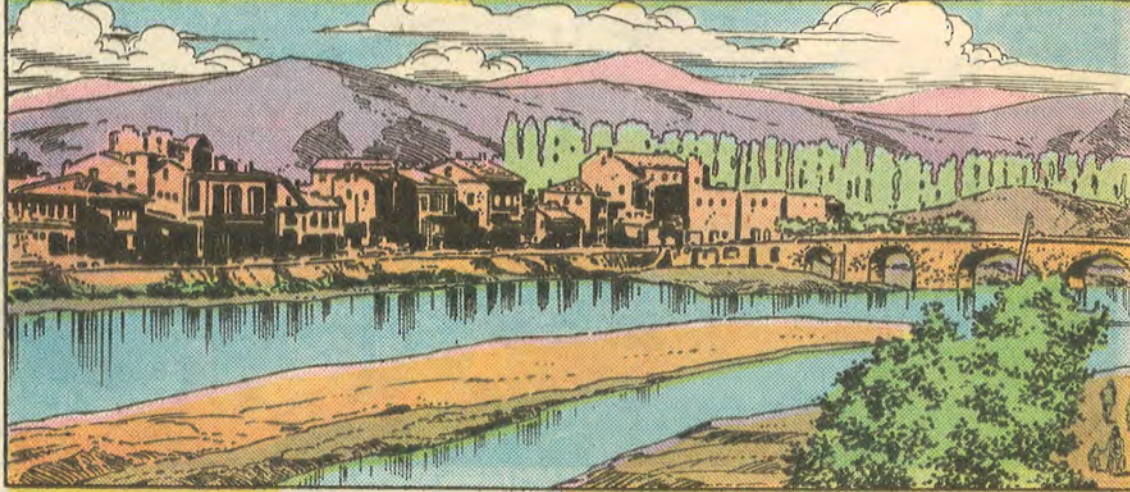
" WE EVEN TRIED TO REACH MOTHER TERESA'S ONLY SURVIVING RELATIVE-- HER BROTHER, LAZAR BOJAKHIU NOW LIVING IN ITALY.



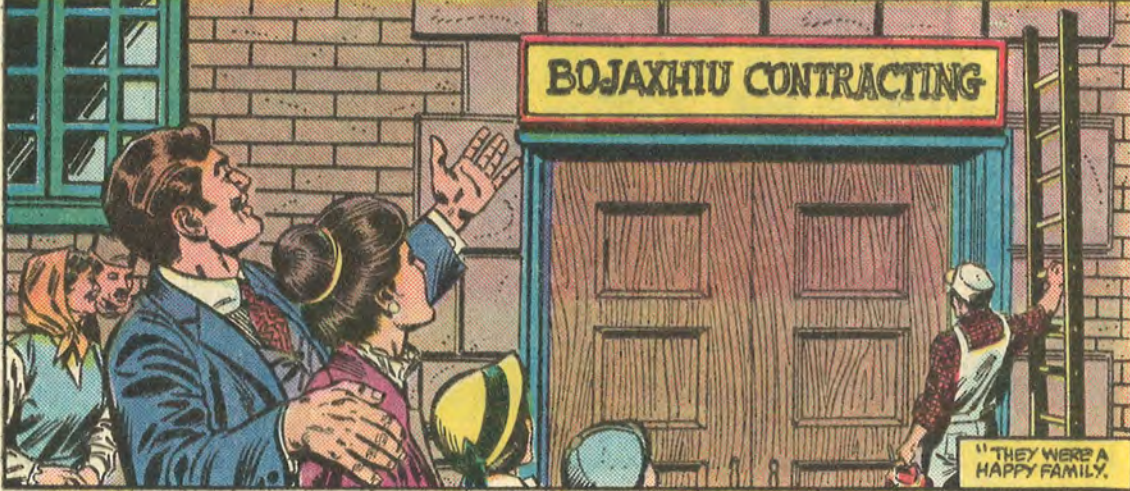
" AND BY THE END OF THE THIRD DAY...

THE PICTURE'S STILL HAZY, FOR SURE, BUT IT LOOKS LIKE THE EDGES ARE STARTING TO CLEAR...

"IT SEEMS THAT BACK AROUND THE TURN OF THE CENTURY, SKOPJE WAS QUITE A DIFFERENT PLACE FROM WHAT IT IS TODAY. SKOPJE WAS PART OF MACEDONIA, AN AREA THAT HAD BEEN FOUGHT OVER BY CELTS, ROMANS, HUNS... MORE ARMIES THAN YOU COULD SHAKE A SPEAR AT! BUT BY 1910, THINGS HAD GROWN PRETTY PEACEFUL..."



"... A PEACE THAT WAS SHARED BY A CERTAIN PROSPEROUS BUILDING CONTRACTOR, ORIGINALLY FROM ALBANIA, NAMED NIKOLA BOJAXHIU, AND HIS DEEPLY RELIGIOUS WIFE, DRONDA."



"THEY WERE A HAPPY FAMILY."

"AND THEY WERE MADE EVEN HAPPIER ON AUGUST 27 OF THAT YEAR BY THE BIRTH OF THEIR THIRD CHILD..."

"WE WILL CALL HER GONXHA-- THAT MEANS 'FLOWER' IN ALBANIAN."



"BUT THAT INFANT WAS LATER TO BE KNOWN THE WORLD OVER AS MOTHER TERESA."

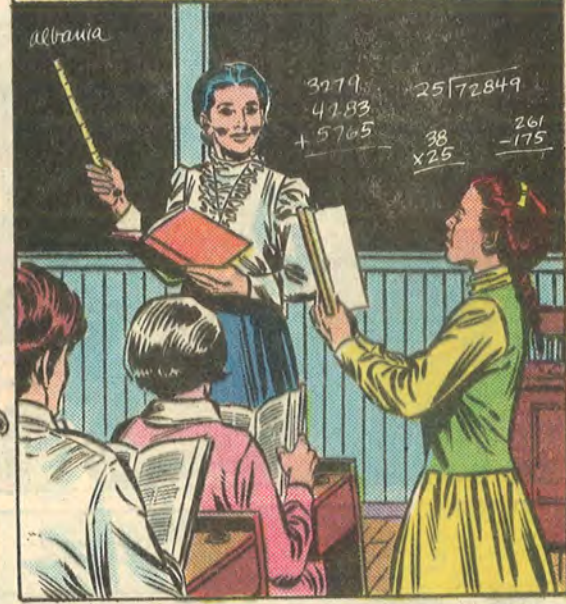
"FROM ALL ACCOUNTS, GONXHA BOJAXHIU WAS A PRETTY NORMAL KID, PLAYING IN THE LOCAL PARKS AND STREETS WITH OTHER CHILDREN OF THE TOWN--"



GONXHA'S GOT THE BALL!

CAN'T CATCH ME! HA-HA!

"-- AND ATTENDING THE SAME GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS AS THEY DID. SHE WASN'T A BAD STUDENT, EITHER."



"SHE DID SPEND A LOT OF TIME IN CHURCH ACTIVITIES-- HER FAMILY WERE PIOUS CATHOLICS-- BUT THAT WASN'T REALLY UNUSUAL..."

"THE AREA AS A WHOLE WAS RELIGIOUS AND CHURCHES FREQUENTLY PROVIDED SOCIAL, AS WELL AS SPIRITUAL, FOCUS."



"IN FACT, GONXHA'S GREAT LOVE OF MUSIC-- AN AFFECTION SHE SHARED WITH HER OLDER SISTER, AGA-- WAS CENTERED ON THE CHURCH. BOTH SHE AND AGA WERE IMPORTANT FIGURES IN THE CHURCH CHOIR, AND GONXHA WAS A FREQUENT SOLOIST."



SHE SINGS LIKE AN ANGEL.



"BUT THERE WERE OTHER INFLUENCES IN GONXHA'S EARLY LIFE -- ONE OF THE BIG ONES WAS HER FATHER. NIKOLA WAS AN ALBANIAN NATIONALIST, AN ACTIVIST, AND THE BOJAXHIU HOME OFTEN PLAYED HOST TO MEETINGS OF POLITICAL ALLIES, AND WAS FILLED WITH TALK OF ALBANIAN INDEPENDENCE.

SOME DAY, ALBANIA WILL BE SOVEREIGN--AND WE SHALL MAKE IT THAT WAY!

"GONXHA LOVED HER FATHER, AND THOSE MEETINGS MAY HAVE SERVED AS LESSONS TO HER YOUNG MIND--TEACHING HER THE VALUES OF STRENGTH AND DETERMINATION IN FOLLOWING A CAUSE.

"BUT, ONE NIGHT IN 1919, WHEN GONXHA WAS JUST NINE YEARS OLD, HER FATHER RETURNED FROM A POLITICAL DINNER. HE WASN'T THE SAME MAN WHO'D LEFT HOURS BEFORE...



NEVER GIVE UP WHEN YOU BELIEVE YOU ARE RIGHT!



FATHER, WHAT'S WRONG?

YOU LOOK ILL, MY LOVE.



MOTHER! TH--THERE'S BLOOD COMING FROM HIS MOUTH!

NIKOLA--?!

DRONDA... I-I DON'T... FEEL VERX... UUUHHH...



FATHER!



"NIKOLA BOJAXHIU WAS RUSHED TO A HOSPITAL, BUT THE BEST SURGICAL TECHNIQUES OF THE DAY COULDN'T SAVE HIM. IT WAS OVER IN HOURS.

I AM SORRY. THE HEMORRHAGING SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN CAUSED BY SOME SORT OF POISON.

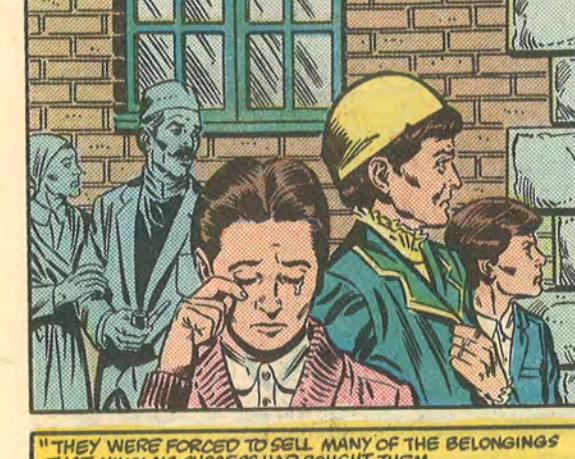


HE WAS MURDERED! I KNOW HE WAS! SOMEONE WANTED TO SILENCE HIS STRONG VOICE!

IT IS A HORRIBLE TRAGEDY, BUT IT IS PAST. NIKOLA WOULD WANT US TO THINK OF THE FUTURE.

NOW, MORE THAN EVER, WE MUST HOLD OUR FAMILY TOGETHER!

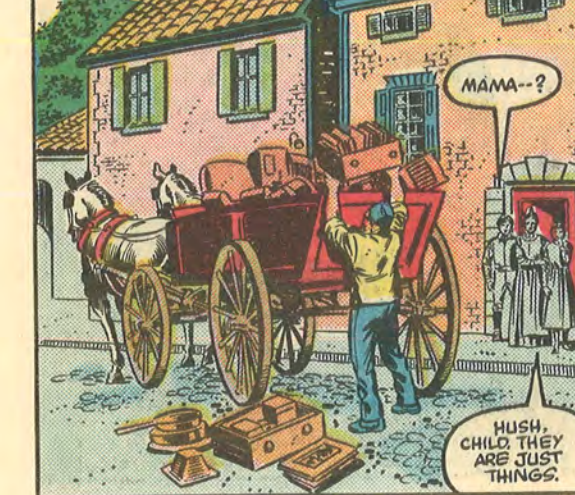
"BUT THAT PROVED TO BE EASIER SAID THAN DONE. NIKOLA'S CONTRACTING PARTNER SOON PLUNDERED THE BUSINESS OF ITS RESOURCES, LEAVING THE BOJAXHIU'S WITHOUT INCOME.



N. BOJAXHIU CONSTRUCTION



"THEY WERE FORCED TO SELL MANY OF THE BELONGINGS THAT NIKOLA'S SUCCESS HAD BOUGHT THEM.



MAMA--?

HUSH, CHILD. THEY ARE JUST THINGS.



"AND SOON...

WE HAVE NOTHING LEFT BUT THE SHELTER OVER OUR HEADS.

"IT WAS A DARK TIME. FOR SOME, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN A HOPELESS TIME...

"... BUT DRONDA BOJAXHIU AND HER CHILDREN NEVER GAVE UP THEIR HOPE -- OR THEIR FAITH.

NO! GOD HELPS THOSE WHO HELP THEMSELVES, AND WE WILL HELP OURSELVES -- FOR GOD!

" DRONDA'S ENTERPRISE SAVED THE FAMILY. SHE STARTED A BUSINESS OF HER OWN, SELLING CLOTH, HAND-CRAFTED RUGS AND EMBROIDERY.

WHOLESALE CLOTH

YES, THIS ONE WILL DO NICELY.

"IT WENT WELL. THE CHILDREN WERE ABLE TO REMAIN IN SCHOOL AND THE FAMILY KEPT ITS HOME -- AND ITS INTEGRITY.

" IT WAS DURING THIS TIME THAT GONXHA HELPED OUT BY WORKING IN THE FIELDS, WHERE SHE LEARNED SOME OF THE TRAITS THAT WERE TO MARK HER LATER MISSIONARY EFFORTS: PATIENCE, THE CAPACITY FOR HARD WORK, AND AN ACCEPTANCE OF THE INEVITABLE OBSTACLES IN LIFE.

" THE FAMILY PROSPERED, DRONDA'S REPUTATION GREW -- WE NEED ADVICE ON WHAT MATERIALS WE SHOULD USE IN OUR TEXTILE FACTORIES, DRONDA. WILL YOU HELP US? AGAIN?

"...AND MANY THINGS RETURNED TO THE STATE THEY WERE IN BEFORE NIKOLA'S DEATH...MANY... BUT NOT ALL.

" FOR WHILE THE POLITICAL LEANINGS OF THE FATHER HAD ONCE PERVADED THE BOJAXHIU HOUSEHOLD, NOW THE DEEP RELIGIOUS BELIEFS OF THE MOTHER HELD SWAY.

" TALK OF ALBANIAN INDEPENDENCE WAS REPLACED BY PRAYERS OF WORSHIP, AND ACTS OF CHARITY.

" LAZAR TOLD ME OF ONE PARTICULAR INCIDENT WHERE DRONDA ENCOUNTERED A WOMAN WHO WAS DEATHLY ILL WITH A TUMOR...

M-MY OWN FAMILY REFUSES TO HELP ME! TH- THEY WON'T EVEN GIVE ME SHELTER.

" DRONDA BOJAXHIU TOOK THE WOMAN INTO HER OWN HOME.

CHILDREN, WE HAVE A GUEST.

" I WONDER HOW MANY PEOPLE I KNOW WHO WOULD'VE DONE THAT...

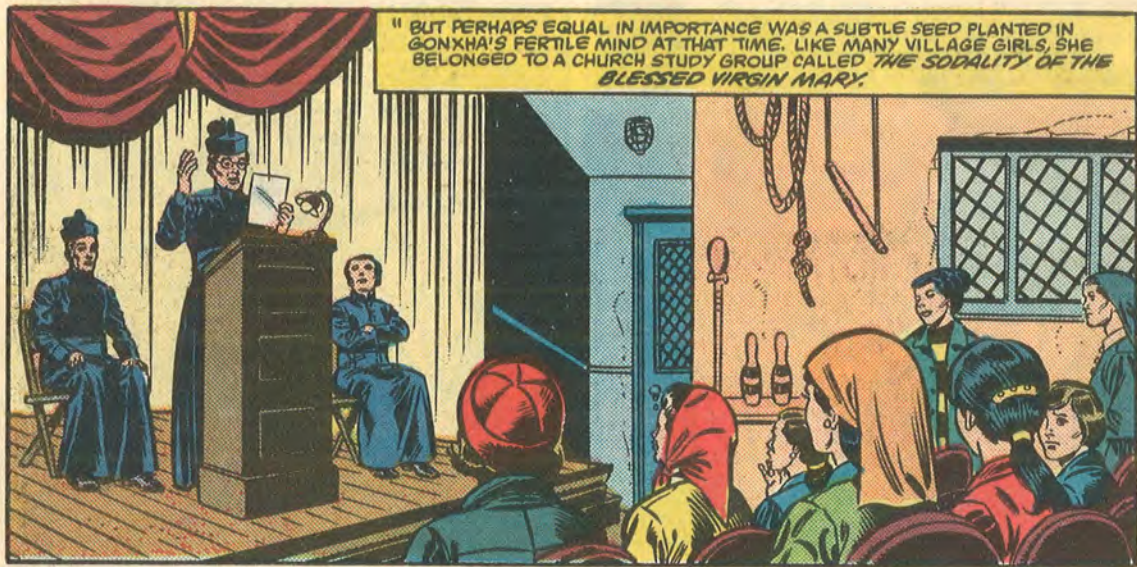
" WITH THE HELP OF FRIENDS AND FAMILY, DRONDA COMFORTED THE WOMAN, FED HER, HOUSED HER, CARED FOR HER.

" AND EVENTUALLY, BECAUSE OF DRONDA'S MINISTRATIONS, THE WOMAN DID GROW WELL ENOUGH TO LEAVE AND FACE LIFE ON HER OWN.

I... I DON'T KNOW HOW TO THANK YOU.

JUST BE WELL. THAT IS THANKS ENOUGH.

" IF GONXHA BOJAXHIU LEARNED THE VALUES OF STRENGTH AND PERSEVERANCE FROM HER FATHER -- SHE ALMOST CERTAINLY FOUND THE LASTING WORTH OF COMPASSION FROM HER MOTHER.



"BUT PERHAPS EQUAL IN IMPORTANCE WAS A SUBTLE SEED PLANTED IN GONXHA'S FERTILE MIND AT THAT TIME. LIKE MANY VILLAGE GIRLS, SHE BELONGED TO A CHURCH STUDY GROUP CALLED THE SODALITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY."



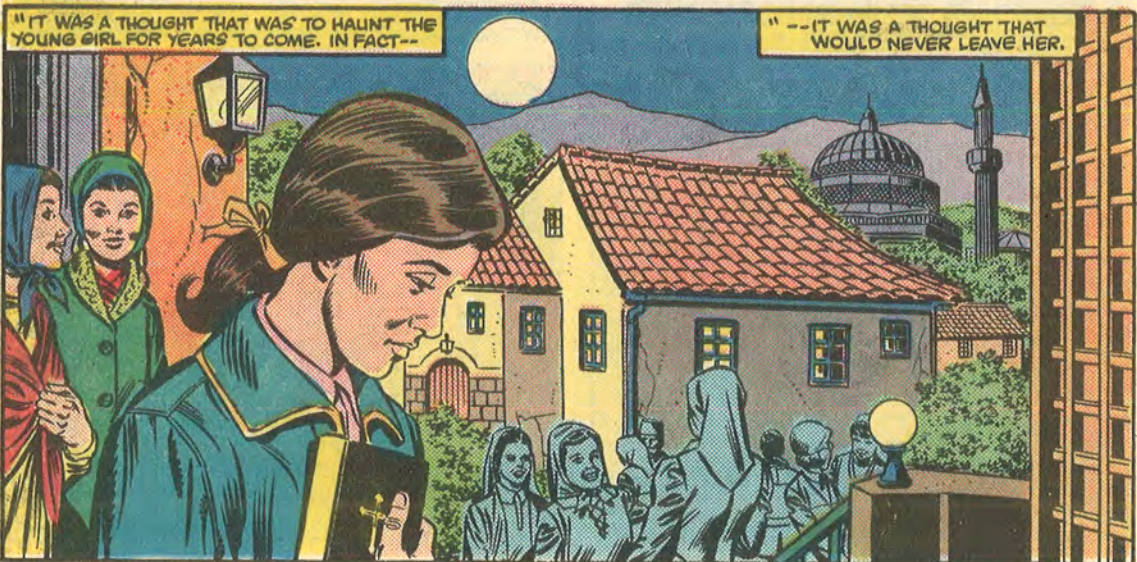
"A FREQUENT ACTIVITY OF THE SODALITY WAS THE READING OF LETTERS FROM JESUIT MISSIONARIES IN BENGAL, INDIA..."

THE FATHER FURTHER WRITES: "THINGS ARE VERY DIFFICULT HERE--IT MAKES EVEN THE STAINCHEST HEART CRY. PEOPLE ARE SO POOR THAT THOUSANDS DIE EACH DAY BECAUSE THEY HAVE NOTHING TO EAT."



THOUSANDS?

EVERY DAY?!



"IT WAS A THOUGHT THAT WAS TO HAUNT THE YOUNG GIRL FOR YEARS TO COME. IN FACT--"

"--IT WAS A THOUGHT THAT WOULD NEVER LEAVE HER."



"HER BROTHER, HOWEVER, DID LEAVE. HAVING FOLLOWED THE DIRECTION OF HIS FATHER'S INFLUENCE MORE CLOSELY, LAZAR HAD GONE TO MILITARY SCHOOL, AND WHEN HE CAME OF AGE, HE JOINED THE ALBANIAN ARMY."

NIKOLA WOULD HAVE BEEN SO PROUD!



"WHEN HE LEFT FOR HIS MILITARY DUTY, HE HAD NO IDEA THAT THAT WOULD BE THE LAST TIME HE WOULD BE SEEING 'GONXHA BOJAXHIU'."



"AFTER THAT, LIFE CONTINUED PRETTY MUCH THE SAME IN SKOPJE. GONXHA ATTENDED SCHOOL, HELPED HER MOTHER, WENT TO SODALITY MEETINGS."



"BUT SHE ALSO BEGAN TO FEED HER EVER-GROWING HUNGER FOR INFORMATION ABOUT MISSIONARY SERVICE."

YOU HAVE JUST RETURNED FROM INDIA, FATHER? PLEASE, TELL ME OF YOUR WORK.

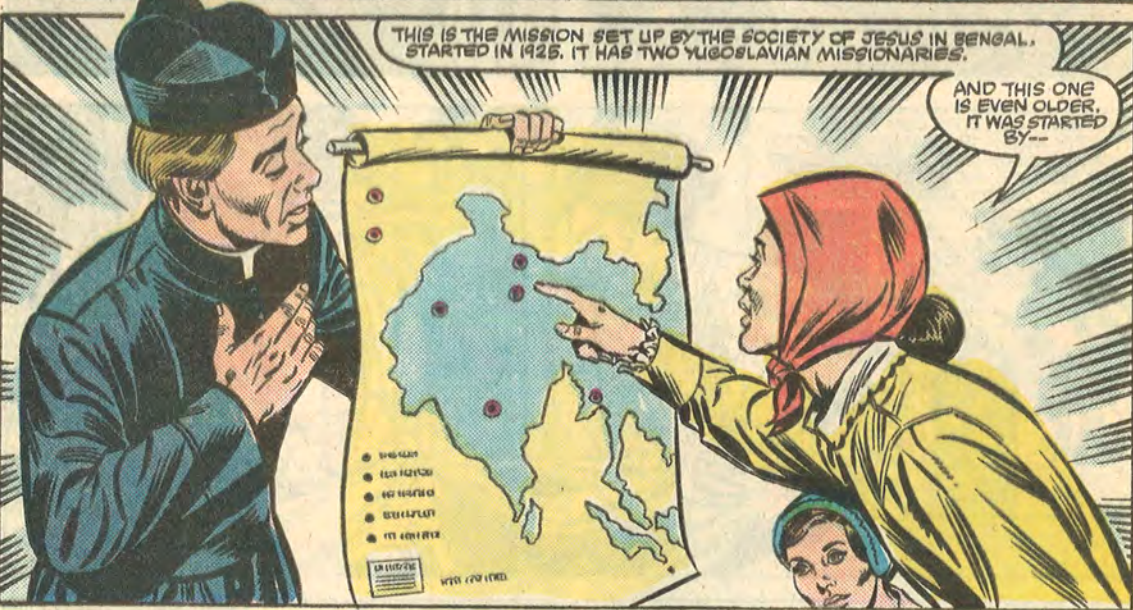
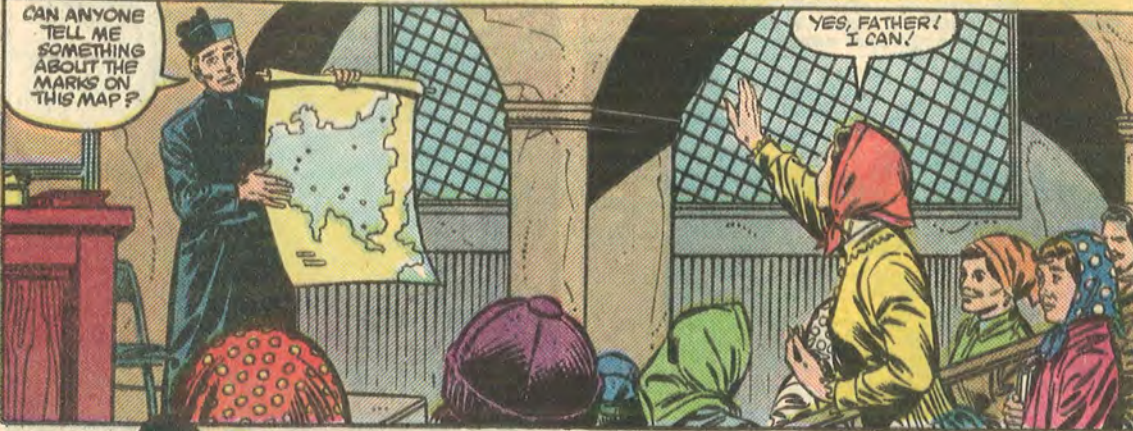


"AND ALL THE WHILE, FASCINATED, SHE LISTENED..."

... LEARNED...

... ABSORBED!

"HOW MUCH SHE ABSORBED WAS EVIDENCED SOME TIME LATER, AS A NEW PARISH PRIEST AT A CHURCH MEETING UNROLLED A MAP OF THE WORLD WITH VARIOUS 'MISSION LOCALITIES' INDICATED ON IT...



"THEN, IN 1928, AT THE AGE OF EIGHTEEN, GONXHA BOJAXHIU MADE THE DECISION THAT WAS TO MOLD THE REMAINDER OF HER LIFE ON EARTH..."



CAN ANYONE TELL ME SOMETHING ABOUT THE MARKS ON THIS MAP?

YES, FATHER! I CAN!

THIS IS THE MISSION SET UP BY THE SOCIETY OF JESUS IN BENGAL, STARTED IN 1925. IT HAS TWO YUGOSLAVIAN MISSIONARIES.

AND THIS ONE IS EVEN OLDER, IT WAS STARTED BY--

"THE NEW PRIEST WAS IMPRESSED, VERY IMPRESSED, ESPECIALLY WHEN GONXHA WENT ON TO NAME AND DESCRIBE EVERY ONE OF THE MISSIONS ON THE MAP!

"AND AFTER THE MEETING..."

SUCH ENTHUSIASM MUST BE ENCOURAGED. I WILL GIVE YOU THE ADDRESS OF THE SISTERS OF LORETTO, IN IRELAND. THEY HAVE MISSIONS IN CALCUTTA. PERHAPS YOU WOULD LIKE TO CORRESPOND WITH THEM?

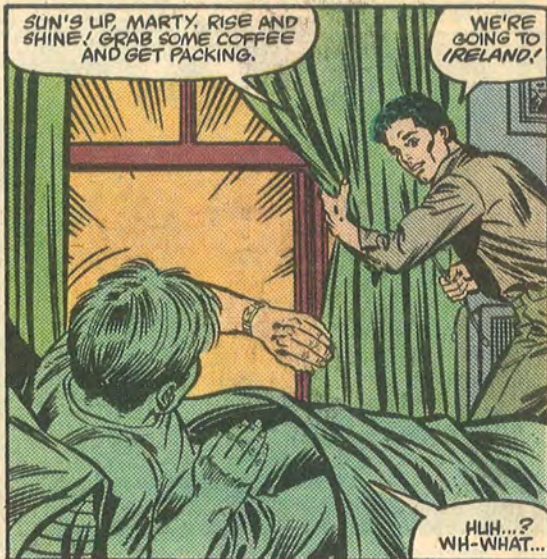
"SOON AFTER, IN NOVEMBER OF 1928, SHE BOARDED A TRAIN ON THE FIRST LEG OF HER JOURNEY TO THE BRITISH ISLES--AND TO A LIFE OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE."

"SHE NEVER ONCE LOOKED BACK."



OKAY... SO FAR, I THINK I UNDERSTAND WHAT MADE GONXHA BOJAXHIU TICK. BUT LOTS OF YOUNG WOMEN BECOME NUNS-- AND DON'T HAVE THE WORLDWIDE IMPACT OF A MOTHER TERESA.

I'VE GOT TO FIND OUT WHAT MAKES HER SO SPECIAL.



SUN'S UP, MARTY. RISE AND SHINE! GRAB SOME COFFEE AND GET PACKING.

WE'RE GOING TO IRELAND!

HUH...? WH-WHAT...



IRELAND?! PLEASE, TELL ME I'M STILL DREAMING! WE JUST GOT TO YUGO-SLAVIA A COUPLE OF DAYS AGO!

SO WHAT ARE YOU GRIPING ABOUT? YOU JOINED THE NEWS TEAM TO SEE THE WORLD, DIDN'T YOU?



SURE! BUT HOW MUCH CAN A GUY SEE WHEN HE'S TOTING AROUND A HALF-TON OF AUDIO-VISUAL LUGGAGE?

I, UH, DON'T SUPPOSE YOU'D LIKE TO TAKE CARE OF THE BATTERY PACKS THIS TIME, WOULDJA?

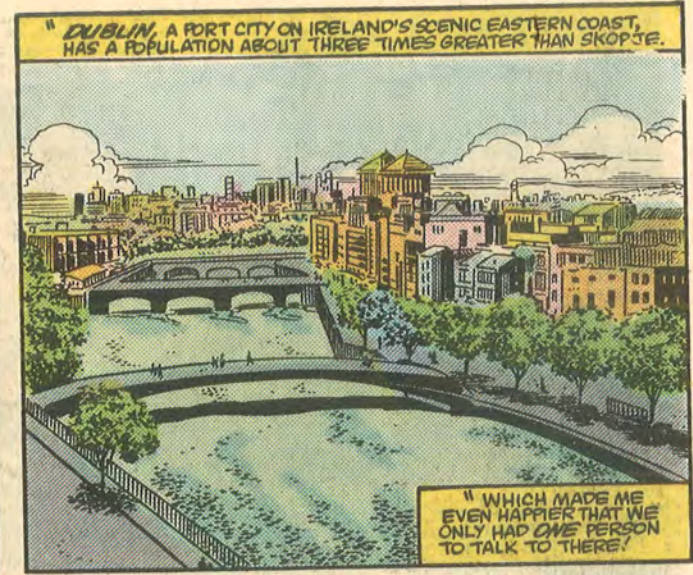


SORRY, PAL, I'VE GOT MY OWN EQUIPMENT TO HAUL.

GEE, NICK, YOU'RE ALL HEART...

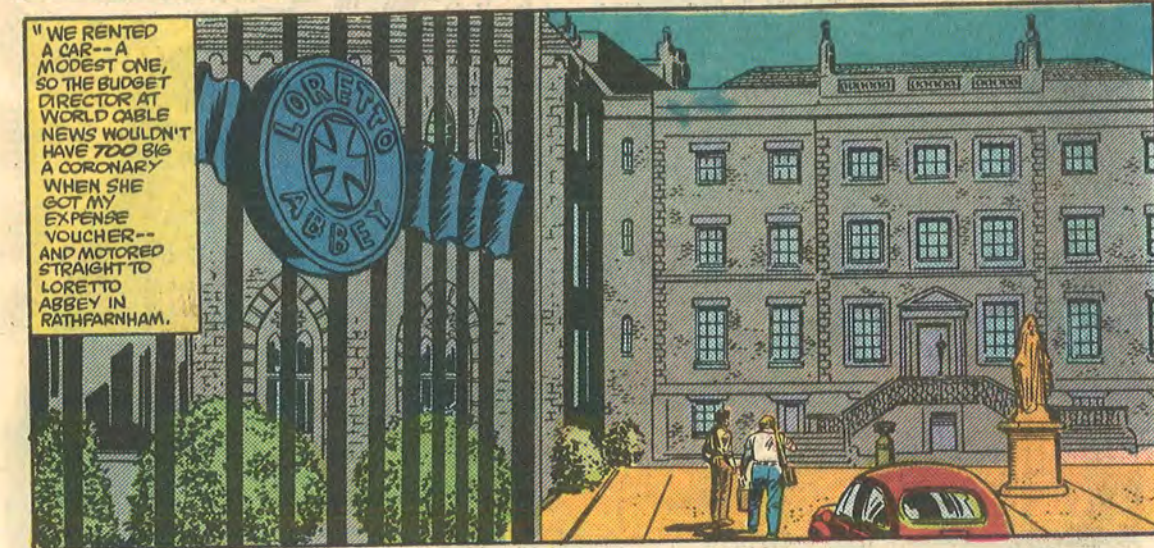


" ON THE BRITISH AIRWAYS FLIGHT, I COULDN'T HELP THINKING OF WHAT IT MUST HAVE COST DRONDA BOJAXHIU TO LET HER DAUGHTER JOIN THE LORETTO SISTERS AND NEVER TO SEE HER AGAIN. BUT THERE WAS NO GOING BACK. THEY BOTH KNEW THAT GONXHA'S DECISION HAD BEEN THE RIGHT ONE.



" DUBLIN, A PORT CITY ON IRELAND'S SCENIC EASTERN COAST, HAS A POPULATION ABOUT THREE TIMES GREATER THAN SKOPJE.

" WHICH MADE ME EVEN HAPPIER THAT WE ONLY HAD ONE PERSON TO TALK TO THERE!



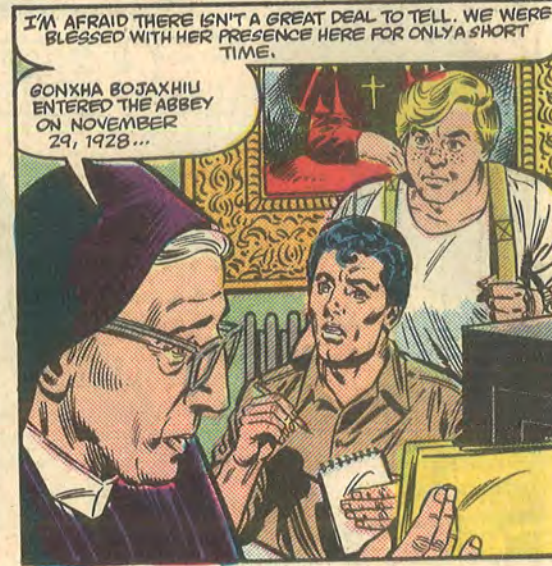
" WE RENTED A CAR-- A MODEST ONE, SO THE BUDGET DIRECTOR AT WORLD CABLE NEWS WOULDN'T HAVE TOO BIG A CORONARY WHEN SHE GOT MY EXPENSE VOUCHER-- AND MOTORED STRAIGHT TO LORETTO ABBEY IN RATHFARNHAM.



" THE MOTHER SUPERIOR WAS GRACIOUS ENOUGH TO SEE US RIGHT AWAY...

YOU WISH TO KNOW OF MOTHER TERESA'S TIME IN OUR SISTERHOOD?

YES, MA'AM. ANYTHING YOU COULD TELL US WOULD BE HELPFUL.



I'M AFRAID THERE ISN'T A GREAT DEAL TO TELL. WE WERE BLESSED WITH HER PRESENCE HERE FOR ONLY A SHORT TIME.

GONXHA BOJAXHIU ENTERED THE ABBEY ON NOVEMBER 29, 1928...



... BEGINNING AS A STUDENT, LEARNING TO SPEAK ENGLISH-- SHE WAS ALREADY FLUENT IN ALBANIAN AND SERBO-CROATIAN-- SINCE INDIA WAS A COLONY OF ENGLAND AT THAT TIME.

'BUT SHE LEARNED FAST, AND SOON SHE HAD BECOME THE TEACHER, READY TO BEGIN THE JOURNEY THAT WOULD TAKE HER THROUGH THE REST OF HER YEARS.'



YOU ARE TO BE SENT TO **DARTEELING, INDIA**, TO BEGIN YOUR NOVITIATE. BUT IN GIVING UP YOUR OLD LIFE, YOU MUST TAKE A NEW NAME.



WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE CALLED?

ST. TERESA OF LISIEUX IS THE PATRONESS OF MISSIONARIES, AND SINCE I AM TO BE A MISSIONARY...

TERESA! THAT IS THE NAME I CHOOSE!



SO BE IT! HENCEFORTH YOU SHALL BE KNOWN AS-- **SISTER TERESA!**



"THE MOTHER SUPERIOR WAS POLITE, AND OPEN, BUT THERE WASN'T A LOT MORE SHE COULD TELL US."

WHERE TO NOW, BOSS?



BETTER HEAD US BACK TO THE AIRPORT, MARTY.

AW, C'MON, DON'T WE EVEN GET TO SAY "HELLO" TO A HOLIDAY INN THIS TIME?



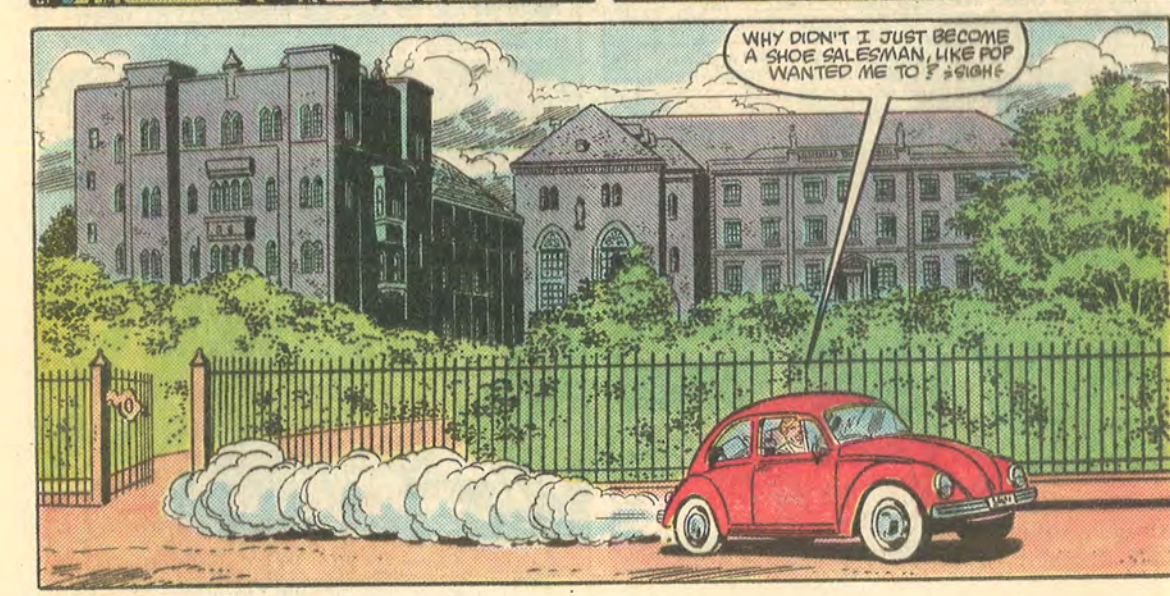
YOU CAN WAVE AS WE PASS BY.

IT LOOKS LIKE THE REAL MEAT OF THIS STORY IS IN INDIA!



INDIA?! OH, NO, YOU DON'T MEAN--!

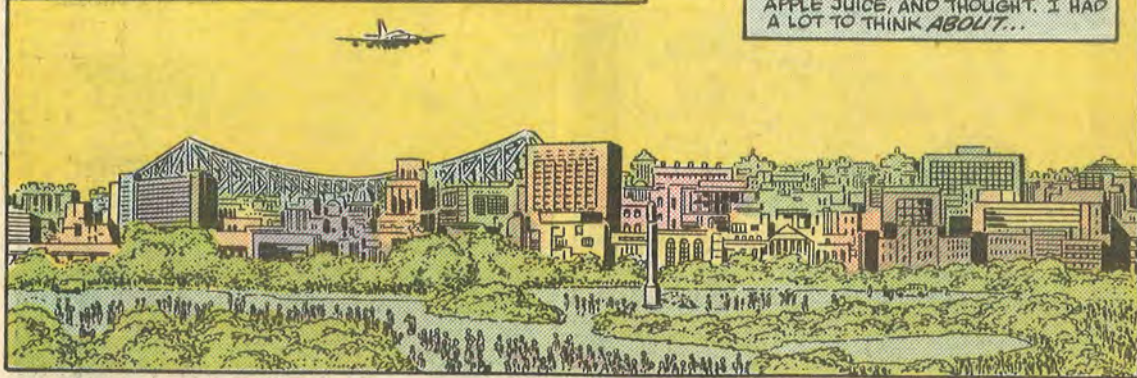
LET'S PUT IT THIS WAY, PAL: I SURE HOPE YOU LIKE CURRY.



WHY DIDN'T I JUST BECOME A SHOE SALESMAN, LIKE POP WANTED ME TO? *GIGGLE*

"THERE WASN'T MUCH TO DO ON THE FLIGHT TO INDIA--THE BATTERIES IN MY WALKMAN WERE DEAD, AND I'D ALREADY SEEN THE MOVIE.

"SO I JUST CRANKED BACK THE CUSHIONED SEAT, ORDERED ANOTHER APPLE JUICE, AND THOUGHT I HAD A LOT TO THINK ABOUT...



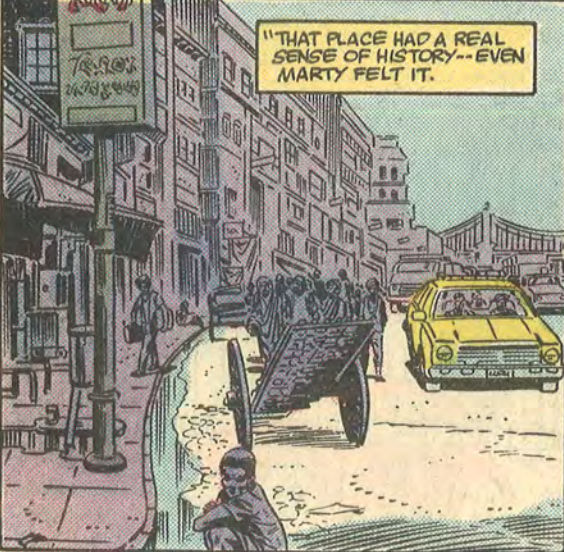
"BECAUSE I WAS STILL CONVINCED THAT, EVEN THOUGH I COULDN'T PUT MY FINGER ON IT YET, THERE WAS SOMETHING VERY SPECIAL ABOUT MOTHER TERESA.

"AND I KNEW AS WE FINALLY DEPLANED AND FLOODED THROUGH CUSTOMS IN CALCUTTA THAT IF A CLUE TO THAT 'SOMETHING' WAS TO BE FOUND--IT WOULD BE FOUND HERE.

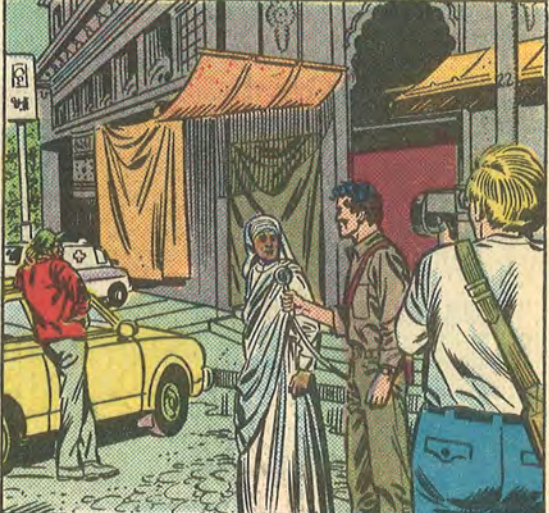


"WE WERE PICKED UP AT THE AIRPORT BY A COPYBOY FROM THE LOCAL *NCN* BUREAU--CALLED HIMSELF A 'GO-FER CHAUFFEUR'--AND WE SPENT MOST OF THE FIRST DAY JUST TOOLING AROUND CALCUTTA.

"WE STOPPED BY TO PICK UP SOME ESTABLISHING SHOTS OF THE ORIGINAL *HOUSE OF THE DYING*--THE INSTITUTION SET UP BY MOTHER TERESA DECADES AGO TO SHELTER TERMINALLY ILL DESTITUATES. I HAVE TO ADMIT I FELT A LITTLE UNEASY BEING THERE, BUT I GUESS THAT'S NATURAL.



"THAT PLACE HAD A REAL SENSE OF HISTORY--EVEN MARTY FELT IT.



"THOUGH THE NUNS WHO KEPT GOING IN AND OUT DIDN'T SEEM ALL THAT UNCOMFORTABLE. IN FACT, THEY SEEMED DOWNRIGHT HAPPY.

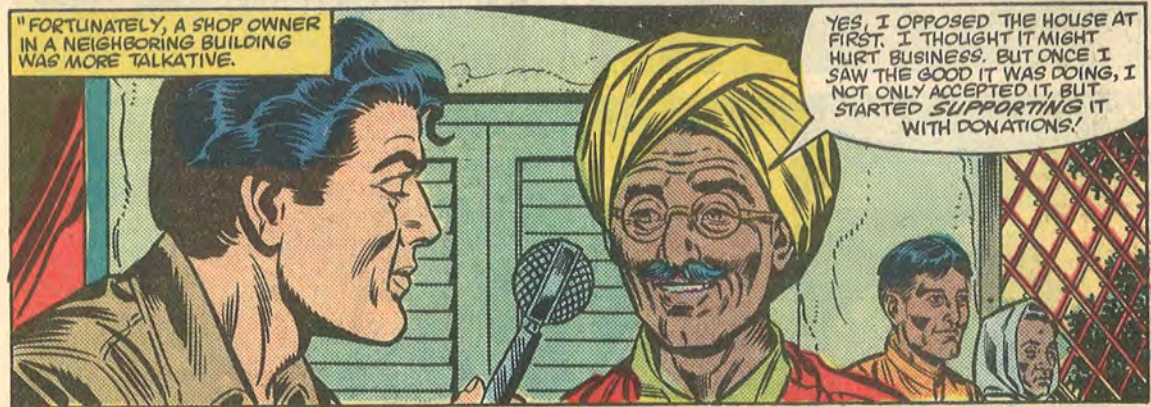
I AM SORRY, BUT WE HAVE NO TIME FOR AN INTERVIEW NOW. PERHAPS LATER.

"THEY EVEN TURNED ME DOWN WITH A SMILE.



"FORTUNATELY, A SHOP OWNER IN A NEIGHBORING BUILDING WAS MORE TALKATIVE.

YES, I OPPOSED THE HOUSE AT FIRST. I THOUGHT IT MIGHT HURT BUSINESS. BUT ONCE I SAW THE GOOD IT WAS DOING, I NOT ONLY ACCEPTED IT, BUT STARTED SUPPORTING IT WITH DONATIONS!



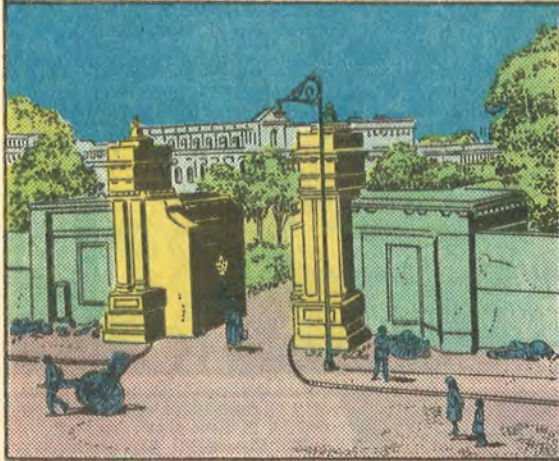
"LATER THAT NIGHT WHILE MARTY SOAKED HIS EVER-COMPLAINING CORNS, I WENT THROUGH MICROFILM FILES, AT THE WORLD CABLE NEWS FIELD OFFICE, SORTING OUT RECES OF THE PAST, LOOKING FOR THE ELUSIVE CLUE. AND WHEN I'D GOTTEN THINGS INTO SOME SEMBLANCE OF ORDER, THEY SEEMED TO SPELL OUT ONE WORD--

"--HORROR! THAT HAD TO HAVE BEEN WHAT SISTER TERESA FELT WHEN, IN 1931, AFTER SERVING TWO YEARS OF NOVITIATE SERVICE IN DARJEELING, SHE JOURNEYED 250 MILES SOUTH TO WALK THE STREETS OF CALCUTTA FOR THE FIRST TIME.



"THOSE WERE STREETS CLOGGED AND CRAWLING WITH HUMAN DROSS--THE DISEASED, AND THE MAIMED, THE HOMELESS, THE STARVING... THE DYING. BUT, IF SISTER TERESA DID FEEL HORROR AT WHAT SHE SAW THAT DAY--THEN SHE ALSO FELT A GREAT DEAL OF PITY, AND A DEEP COMPASSION.

"HOWEVER, DOING SOMETHING ABOUT THOSE FEELINGS WAS TO TAKE YEARS. FOR HAVING MADE HER FIRST VOWS AS A SISTER OF LORETO ON MAY 24, 1931, TERESA HAD BEEN ASSIGNED TO TEACH AT THE ST. MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL IN ENTALLY, A MIDDLE-CLASS SECTION OF CALCUTTA.



WELCOME, SISTER.

WE ARE SO HAPPY TO HAVE YOU HERE.

"IN HER 17 YEARS AS A TEACHER IN THE ENTALLY COMPOUND, SHE SHOWED GENUINE TALENT AS AN ADMINISTRATOR, SO MUCH SO THAT SHE WAS EVENTUALLY MADE PRINCIPAL OF ST. MARY'S.



"THOUGH HER TRUE INTERESTS AND ABILITIES LAY IN HER NATURAL FRIENDLINESS AND CONCERN FOR PEOPLE.

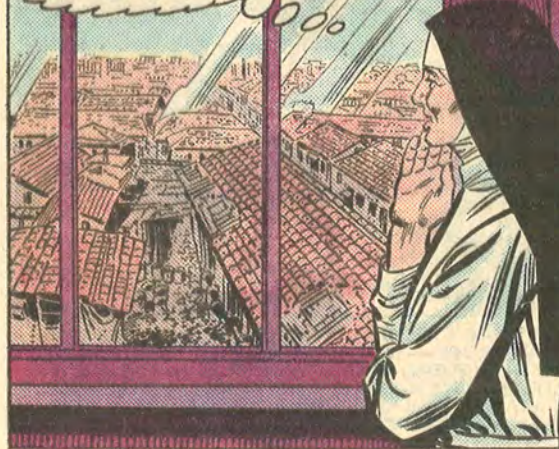
SHE HAS A MAGIC TOUCH WITH CHILDREN.

SHE HAS A MAGIC TOUCH WITH EVERY ONE.



"ALL THE WHILE, A DISCONTENT WAS BUILDING...

I KNOW MY WORK IS IMPORTANT, BUT WHAT AM I DOING TO HELP THE SUFFERING, TO EASE THEIR PAIN?



I WANTED TO SERVE THE POOR, BUT HERE I AM SERVING THE RICH.

SO MUCH PAPERWORK.

IS THIS REALLY WHAT GOD WANTS ME TO DO?



"THEN, AS IF THINGS WEREN'T BAD ENOUGH, ALONG CAME WORLD WAR II, AND BRITAIN SWEEPED INDIA UP IN THE CONFLICT BY DECLARING WAR ON HER BEHALF.



"BOATS THAT USUALLY BROUGHT RICE FROM PADDYLANDS TO THE CITIES WERE PRESSED INTO MILITARY SERVICE, CUTTING ALREADY MEAGER FOOD SUPPLIES AND CAUSING A FAMINE THAT TOOK AS MANY AS FIVE MILLION LIVES!

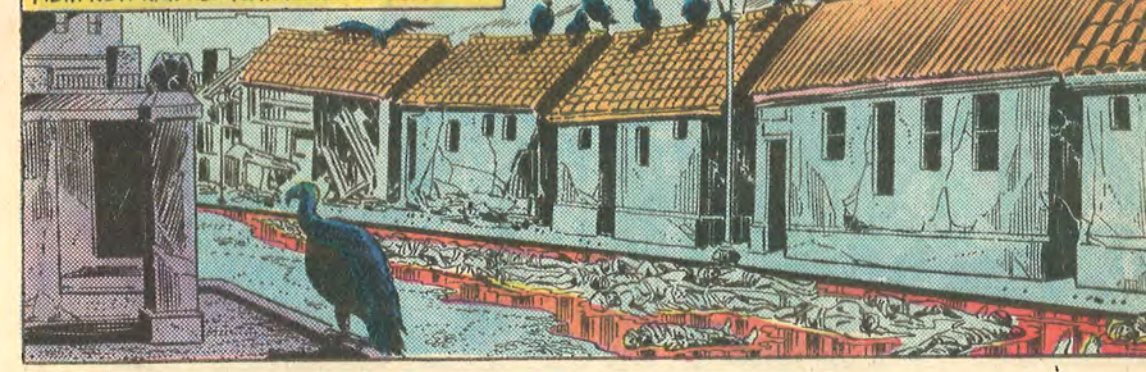


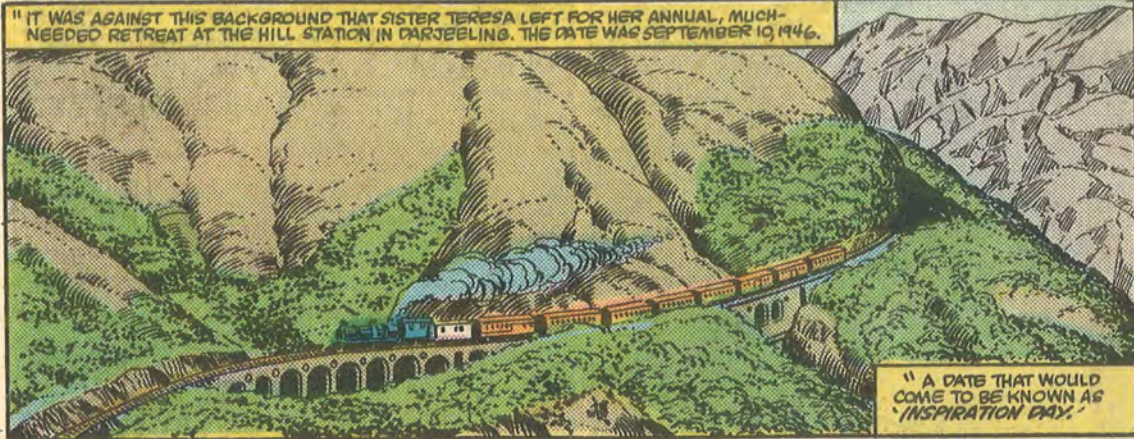
"AND EVEN WHEN THE WAR SLITHERED TO AN END, DISASTERS CONTINUED TO PLAGUE INDIA. IN 1946, DIRECT ACTION DAY WAS DECLARED BY THE MUSLIM LEAGUE, PITTING MUSLIMS AGAINST HINDUS IN AN EXPLOSION OF HIDEOUS VIOLENCE.

"MEN AND WOMEN ALIKE WERE IMPALED ON METAL-SHOD LATHIS, SHOPS WERE SET ON FIRE WITH THEIR OWNERS STILL INSIDE, SEWERS FLOODED WITH THE BODIES THAT WERE DUMPED INTO THEM.



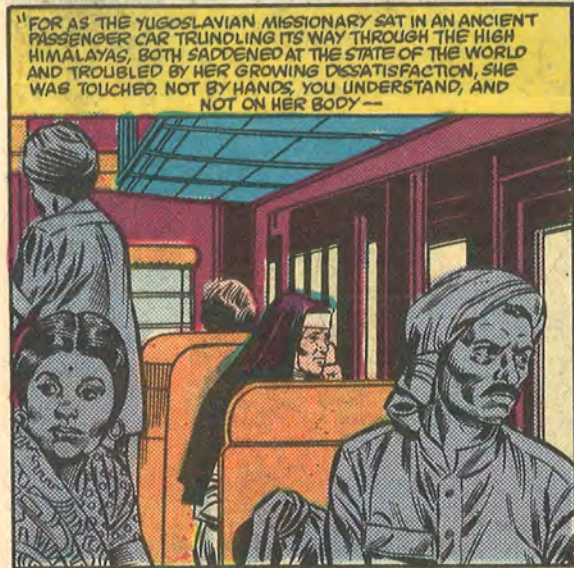
"AND GUTTERS THAT HAD ONCE RUN DARK WITH FILTH NOW RAN RED WITH HUMAN BLOOD.





"IT WAS AGAINST THIS BACKGROUND THAT SISTER TERESA LEFT FOR HER ANNUAL, MUCH-NEEDED RETREAT AT THE HILL STATION IN DARJEELING. THE DATE WAS SEPTEMBER 10, 1946.

"A DATE THAT WOULD COME TO BE KNOWN AS 'INSPIRATION DAY.'"



"FOR AS THE YUGOSLAVIAN MISSIONARY SAT IN AN ANCIENT PASSENGER CAR TRUNDLING ITS WAY THROUGH THE HIGH HIMALAYAS, BOTH SADDENED AT THE STATE OF THE WORLD AND TROUBLED BY HER GROWING DISSATISFACTION, SHE WAS TOUCHED, NOT BY HANDS, YOU UNDERSTAND, AND NOT ON HER BODY --



"-- BUT IN HER SOUL!"

"I KNOW NOW! I KNOW WHAT I MUST DO!"

"SHE LATER SAID THAT SHE'D RECEIVED A CALLING FROM GOD, AND CONSIDERING WHAT HAPPENED AFTERWARDS... WHO AM I TO ARGUE?"



"ANYWAY, WHEN SHE GOT BACK TO CALCUTTA SHE SOUGHT AN IMMEDIATE AUDIENCE WITH THE MOTHER SUPERIOR AT ENTALLY."

"DO I UNDERSTAND YOU CORRECTLY, SISTER? YOU WISH TO REMAIN A NUN-- BUT LIVE OUTSIDE THE CLOISTER?"

"YES, MOTHER. I HAVE RECEIVED AN ORDER FROM GOD."



"I AM TO SURRENDER MYSELF TO HIM IN THE SERVICE OF THE POOREST OF THE POOR. TO DO THAT, I MUST LIVE AMONG THOSE POOR."

"TO DO OTHERWISE WOULD BE TO BREAK THE FAITH."



"THOUGH THE MOTHER SUPERIOR WAS SKEPTICAL, SHE STILL GAVE AN OKAY FOR TERESA TO SEND HER REQUEST TO ROME."

"BUT A NUN LIVING AND WORKING OUTSIDE THE CONVENT SYSTEM WAS UNUSUAL TO SAY THE LEAST, AND THE PROCEDURES OF CANON LAW IN THOSE DAYS WERE KIND OF DRAWN OUT."



"SO SISTER TERESA SPENT TWO PATIENT YEARS WAITING FOR PERMISSION TO FOLLOW HER CALLING, DURING WHICH TIME SHE CONTINUED TO TEACH."

"AND SHE ALSO ATTAINED ONE OF THE PROUDEST ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF HER LIFE--"

"-- SHE BECAME AN INDIAN CITIZEN."



"THEN, ON APRIL 12, 1948, A LETTER ARRIVED FROM POPE PIUS XII..."

"HIS HOLINESS HAS GRANTED APPROVAL FOR YOUR EXCLUSION, SISTER. WE ALL WISH YOU WELL."

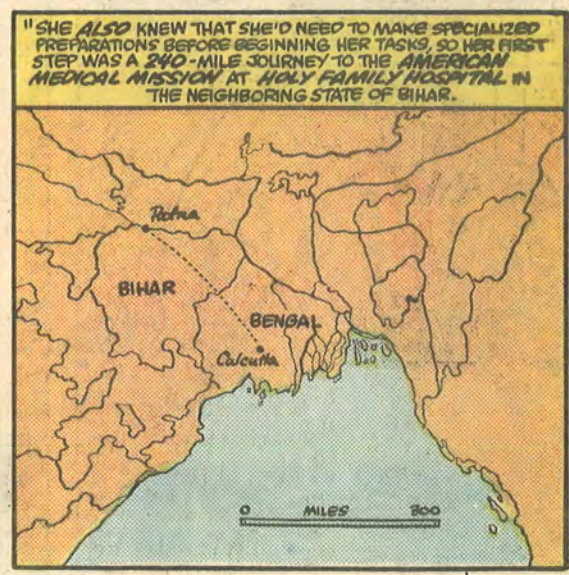
"IF THIS IS GOD'S WORK, IT WILL SUCCEED. IF IT IS MY WORK, IT WILL NOT."



"LATER..."

"LEAVING THE SISTERHOOD IS EVEN MORE DIFFICULT THAN LEAVING MY FAMILY AT SKOPJE."

"MAYBE IT WAS, BUT TERESA KNEW SHE WAS DOING THE RIGHT THING."



"SHE ALSO KNEW THAT SHE'D NEED TO MAKE SPECIALIZED PREPARATIONS BEFORE BEGINNING HER TASKS, SO HER FIRST STEP WAS A 240-MILE JOURNEY TO THE AMERICAN MEDICAL MISSION AT HOLY FAMILY HOSPITAL IN THE NEIGHBORING STATE OF BIHAR."

0 MILES 200

" THERE SHE SPENT THREE MONTHS TAKING CONCENTRATED TRAINING IN MEDICINE, NURSING AND NUTRITION.



" AND IT WAS IN THIS LATTER FIELD THAT A SPOT OF CONFLICT AROSE...



" I INSIST! MY HELPERS AND I MUST EAT ONLY RICE AND SALT, THE BASIC DIET OF THE POOR!

" IT WAS ONLY AFTER SHE WAS TOLD THAT SUCH A PRACTICE WOULD BE A SERIOUS SIN THAT SHE GAVE IN AND AGREED TO A PROPER DIET. IT'S KIND'A NICE TO KNOW THAT SOMEONE WITH SUCH A TRACK RECORD AS TERESA OF CALCUTTA CAN BE AS STUBBORN AS THE REST OF US. SORT OF MAKES HER A LITTLE MORE HUMAN.



" BUT SHE STILL TRIED TO BE AS TRUE AS POSSIBLE TO HER GOAL OF LIVING AND WORKING IN THE SAME CONDITIONS AS THE FOLKS SHE WANTED TO HELP. AND THAT MEANT SETTING ASIDE THE RELIGIOUS HABIT SHE'D BEEN WEARING AS A NUN FOR ALMOST TWO DECADES.



" INSTEAD, SHE CLOTHED HERSELF IN THE WHITE COTTON SARI OF POOR INDIAN WOMEN. SHE ONLY ADDED A BLUE BORDER, A SMALL CRUCIFIX HELD ON BY A SAFETY PIN, AND A PAIR OF SANDALS GIVEN TO HER BY THE AMERICAN SISTERS. SOME MIGHT SAY SHE WASN'T EXACTLY DRESSED TO KILL.



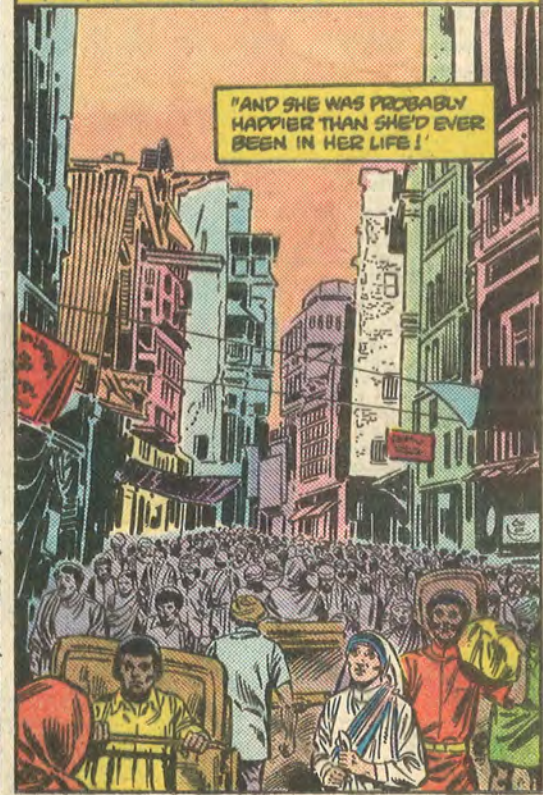
" BUT THEN, HEALING WAS MORE HER LINE.

" AT ANY RATE, SHE ARRIVED BACK IN CALCUTTA IN DECEMBER OF 1948, STEPPING OFF OF A STEAM-HISSING TRAIN --



" -- AND INTO THE BUSTLING, MISERY-FILLED STREETS THAT SHE'D KNOWN FOR SO LONG WOULD BE HER DESTINY.

" SHE HAD AN IMPOSSIBLE JOB IN FRONT OF HER. SHE HAD FIVE RUPEES--ABOUT 70¢--TO HER NAME.



" AND SHE WAS PROBABLY HAPPIER THAN SHE'D EVER BEEN IN HER LIFE!

" SHE WAS ALLOWED RESIDENCE IN A HOME FOR THE AGED RUN BY THE LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR.



" BUT SHE WAS TO SEE LITTLE OF THAT SPARSELY-FURNISHED ROOM IN THE DAYS TO COME. FOR SHE WAS NOT ABOUT TO ASK THE PEOPLE TO COME TO HER. NO...



" ... SHE WOULD GO TO THEM.

"AND SO SHE DID, THE VERY NEXT DAY AFTER HER ARRIVAL.

THIS PLACE IS CALLED *MOTI JIHE*—ITS NAME MEANS "PEARL LAKE."

"IN REALITY, IT WAS JUST A STAGNANT POND WHERE RESIDENTS DREW WATER FOR DRINKING AND WASHING."

"A PLUM TREE NEXT TO THE POND BECAME THE SITE OF HER FIRST SCHOOL FOR THE POOR..."

WOULD YOU CHILDREN LIKE TO GO TO SCHOOL? I WILL TEACH YOU.

I HAVEN'T MONEY FOR CHALK OR BLACKBOARDS, SO I MUST IMPROVISE.

"THAT FIRST DAY SHE HAD ONLY FIVE PUPILS."

BUT SOON, SHE WAS TEACHING MORE THAN FORTY. SHE WENT TO MOTHERS AND FATHERS AND ASKED IF THEY WANTED THEIR CHILDREN TO LEARN, AND THE PARENTS AGREED, KNOWING THAT EDUCATION WAS THE ONLY TICKET OUT OF POVERTY.

CAN WE COME BACK AGAIN TOMORROW, MOTHER?

"AND THUS, WAS *SISTER TERESA* PROMOTED TO *MOTHER*."

"WITHIN A FEW MONTHS, A NUMBER OF MOTHER TERESA'S EX-STUDENTS FROM ST. MARY'S HAD COME TO JOIN HER, TRADING IN THEIR PRETTY DRESSES FOR SIMPLE WHITE SARIS."

"AND WITH THEIR AID, HUTS WERE RENTED SO THAT THE SCHOOL COULD WEATHER THE MONSOON SEASON."

"BUT, HELP ALSO CAME FROM OTHER SOURCES..."

WE NEED MEDICINE!

CHEMISI

I AM SORRY. IF YOU HAVE NO MONEY, I CANNOT HELP YOU.

AS SHE LEFT THE PHARMACY, PERHAPS THINKING OF THE WAY PEOPLE FREQUENTLY JUSTIFY SUFFERING— THAT THE VICTIM IS PAYING FOR HIS SINS— MOTHER TERESA PRAYED.

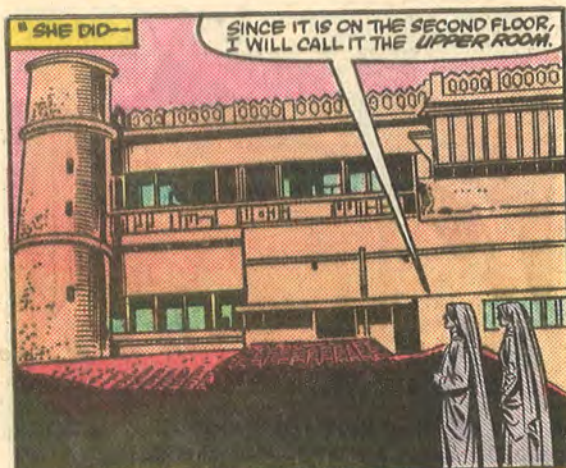
"AND..."

OH, ALL RIGHT. YOU CAN HAVE WHAT YOU WANT. NO CHARGE.

PRESENTATION

"THEN, IN FEBRUARY OF 1949, JUST AS MOTHER TERESA HAD DECIDED THAT HER FOLLOWERS HAD OUTGROWN THEIR HOUSING FACILITIES..."

MOTHER, MY NAME IS MICHAEL GOMES. I HAVE A HOUSE ON CREEK LANE, AND THE SECOND FLOOR IS EMPTY. WHY DON'T YOU USE IT?



"SHE DID— SINCE IT IS ON THE SECOND FLOOR, I WILL CALL IT THE UPPER ROOM."

"— AND THAT BECAME THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY, THE FORMAL NAME OF THE ORDER MOTHER TERESA FOUNDED, ONE THAT WAS APPROVED IN 1950 BY ARCHBISHOP FERIER TO WORK IN THE CALCUTTA ARCHDIOCESE."



"THEN, IN OCTOBER OF 1952, AS MOTHER TERESA MET WITH A CHRONICALLY-ILL BELGIAN WOMAN IN THE PATNA HOSPITAL..."

WHAT YOU CAN DO FROM YOUR BED OF PAIN HAS MORE VALUE THAN WHAT I DO WITH THE POOR. OFFER YOUR SUFFERING FOR MY SISTERS AND ME.

"THE WOMAN EVENTUALLY MOVED BACK TO EUROPE, BUT MOTHER TERESA KEPT IN TOUCH WITH HER, SUGGESTING THAT SHE BECOME A SPIRITUAL MEMBER OF THE MISSIONARIES BY OFFERING HER PAIN AND PRAYERS FOR THEM."



"THAT WAS THE BEGINNING OF THE SICK AND SUFFERING CO-WORKERS, AN ORGANIZATION THAT BECAME PART OF THE CO-WORKERS CONSTITUTION IN 1969."

"BUT, BACK IN '52, THOUGH HER SCHOOL WAS FLOURISHING, MOTHER TERESA STILL WANTED TO BRING HELP TO THE POOR. AND LATER THAT SAME YEAR, SHE TOOK THE NEXT STEP..."



THAT POOR WOMAN— BEING EATEN BY RATS! I MUST HELP HER!



IMPOSSIBLE! IF SHE HAS NO MONEY TO PAY, WE CANNOT ADMIT THIS WOMAN.

"IN THE SAME SPIRIT THAT DRONDA BOYANILU HAD TAKEN A DYING WOMAN INTO THEIR HOME YEARS BEFORE, MOTHER TERESA HELPED THE POOR INDIAN TO A HOSPITAL."

"BUT MOTHER TERESA REFUSED TO MOVE UNTIL THEY DID, AND, EVENTUALLY..."



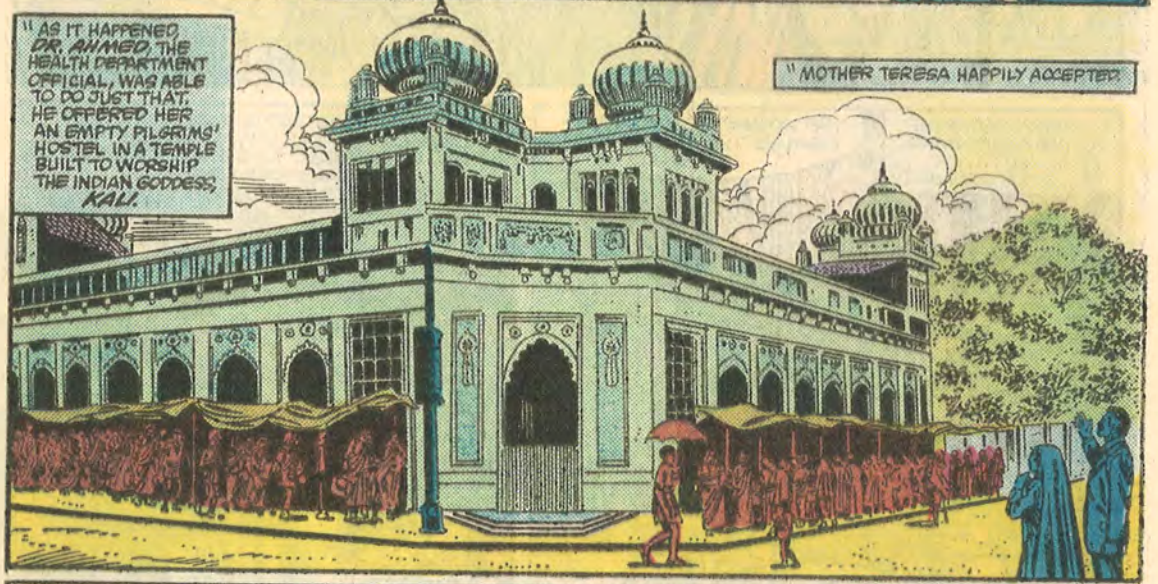
OH, VERY WELL. BRING HER IN.



"BUT THAT WASN'T THE END OF THE INCIDENT. MOTHER TERESA WENT ON TO THE CALCUTTA HEALTH DEPARTMENT WHERE, AFTER EXPLAINING THE PLIGHT OF SO MANY PEOPLE DYING IN THE STREETS..."

I AM SORRY. THERE IS NOTHING WE CAN DO.

BUT THERE IS SOMETHING I CAN DO! JUST GIVE ME A BUILDING!



"AS IT HAPPENED, DR. AHMED, THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL, WAS ABLE TO DO JUST THAT. HE OFFERED HER AN EMPTY PILGRIMS' HOSTEL IN A TEMPLE BUILT TO WORSHIP THE INDIAN GODDESS, KALI."

"MOTHER TERESA HAPPILY ACCEPTED."



ABOVE ALL, THE DYING HAVE TO BE TOUCHED, TO BE HELD. THEY HAVE TO FEEL THAT, EVEN IF ONLY AT THE END, SOMEONE LOVES THEM.

GOD LOVES THEM.

"WITHIN 24 HOURS, MOTHER TERESA AND HER FOLLOWERS HAD BEGUN MOVING PATIENTS INTO WHAT WAS TO BE THE FIRST HOUSE OF THE DESTITUTE DYING."



WE WILL CALL THIS PLACE 'MAMA MIREY'— 'IMMACULATE HEART.'

"SHE FILLED IT WITH THE REJECTED HUMANITY THAT WAS UNQUITTING TO THE CITY'S STREETS AND GUTTERS, MAKING SURE THAT THEY GOT THE CARE AND LOVE THEY SO DESPERATELY NEEDED."

"IT SEEMED LIKE A NOBLE MISSION-- BUT NOT EVERYONE SAW IT THAT WAY IN THE BEGINNING.



"OTHERS PROTESTED TO THE CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA ON RELIGIOUS GROUNDS.

THE HOUSE OF THE DYING DEFILES THE SACRED TEMPLE OF KALI!



"THE OUTCRY RESULTED IN A WELL-KNOWN POLITICIAN OF THE DAY MAKING HIS WAY TO THE HOUSE, DETERMINED TO SEE FOR HIMSELF WHAT THE REAL STORY WAS.



"WHAT HE SAW WAS MOTHER TERESA AND THE MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY WASHING SORES, FEEDING THE HUNGRY, DISTRIBUTING MEDICINE AND, IN GENERAL, SOOTHING PAIN AND DISCOMFORT.



"WHEN HE CAME BACK OUT, HE DIDN'T MINCE WORDS...

I SHALL NOT GET THAT WOMAN OUT OF THIS PLACE BEFORE YOU GET YOUR MOTHERS AND SISTERS TO DO THE WORK THESE NUNS ARE DOING. IN THE TEMPLE, YOU HAVE A GODDESS IN STONE; HERE, YOU HAVE A LIVING GODDESS!

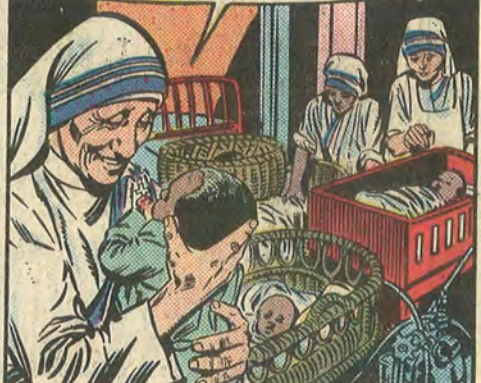


"AFTER THAT, THE INDIAN PEOPLE GOT INVOLVED IN A BIG WAY, BRINGING TERMINAL DESTITUATES TO THE HOUSE OF THE DYING THEMSELVES, SO THAT THE SISTERS COULD BE FREE TO CARE FOR THEM.



"AND THE RANKS OF THOSE BEING HELPED BY THE SISTERS WERE SWOLLEN EVEN FURTHER BY THE NUMBER OF ABANDONED AND UNWANTED INFANTS THEY TOOK CHARGE OF.

EVEN IF THEY ARE TO DIE AN HOUR LATER, WE MUST TAKE THEM IN. THESE BABIES MUST NOT BE UNCARED FOR OR UNLOVED. EVEN A TINY BABY CAN FEEL LOVE.



"IN FACT, THE MISSION THRIVED SO THAT THE SISTERS, THEN NUMBERING 28, OUTGREW THE UPPER ROOM --



"--AND HAD TO MOVE TO A SMALL COMPLEX OF BUILDINGS ERECTED AROUND A COURTYARD ON LOWER CIRCULAR ROAD. THIS BECAME, AND REMAINS TODAY, THEIR HEAD-QUARTERS, THE 'MOTHER HOUSE'.

"FREE-WILL CONTRIBUTIONS GREW SO PLENTIFUL THAT THE NEW ORDER STOPPED ACCEPTING GRANTS FROM THE GOVERNMENT, AND ENDED ITS OUTSIDE FUND-RAISING ACTIVITIES.



"WHICH WAS A GOOD THING, BECAUSE THAT LEFT MOTHER TERESA TIME TO TACKLE PERHAPS THE GREATEST CHALLENGE TO HER COMPASSION AND RESOURCEFULNESS...



"LEPERS! WE HAVE LOST OUR JOBS. WE HAVE NO SHELTER, NO PLACE TO GO..."





THEN YOU MUST COME IN HERE, OF COURSE!

"IN INDIA, LEPROSY WAS A GREAT EQUALIZER. IT DIDN'T MATTER IF YOU WERE RICH AND WELL-EDUCATED, OR DIRT-POOR AND IGNORANT-- IF YOU WERE A LEPER, YOU GOT TOSSED INTO THE STREET WITH THE REST OF THE GARBAGE."

PEACE



"BUT CASTES NEVER MATTERED MUCH TO MOTHER TERESA, ANY MORE THAN THE NAMES OR NATURE OF THE DISEASES SHE TREATED. IF A HUMAN BEING NEEDED CARE, SHE GAVE IT."



"PRETTY SOON AN INDIAN DOCTOR, A SPECIALIST IN LEPROSY, CAME TO HELP."

I WILL TRAIN YOU TO CARE FOR YOUR NEW CHARGES.



WITH NEW DRUGS AND MEDICINES, WE WILL BE ABLE TO STEM THE DISEASE, IF VICTIMS SEEK HELP IN TIME.



"WITH HER SCHOOLS AND THE HOUSE OF THE DYING RUNNING SMOOTHLY ON THEIR OWN, MOTHER TERESA WAS ABLE TO DEVOTE HER FULL ENERGIES TO BETTERING THE LOT OF LEPERS--"

"-- AND IN 1957 SHE HELPED ESTABLISH THE FIRST LEPER ASYLUM AT GOBRA, JUST OUTSIDE OF CALCUTTA."



"THE TASK WAS ENORMOUS, BUT MOTHER TERESA TACKLED IT WITH HER USUAL ZEAL..."

MOTHER, THERE ARE OVER 30,000 LEPERS IN CALCUTTA ALONE!

YES, BUT WE ARE TREATING 1,000 OF THEM ALREADY!



"HOWEVER, THE PROJECT WAS NOT WITHOUT ITS PROBLEMS. FOR EXAMPLE, SOME TIME LATER, WHEN THE CITY WAS EXPANDING AND GOBRA WAS TO BE DEMOLISHED TO MAKE ROOM--TERESA AND HER FIRST LAY CO-WORKER, ANN BLAIKIE, WENT LOOKING FOR A NEW SITE..."

THIS IS PERFECT.



YES, IT WILL MAKE A WONDERFUL SETTING FOR OUR NEW LEPERSDORIUM!

LEPERS?!

HERE?!



NO!

GO AWAY!

LEAVE US!



"MOTHER TERESA'S REACTION WAS ONE OF TYPICAL PRACTICALITY..."

I DON'T THINK GOD WANTS US TO HAVE A LEPER CLINIC HERE!



"BUT MINOR SETBACKS WERE TAKEN IN STRIDE, AS THE MAIN CRUSADE WENT ON."

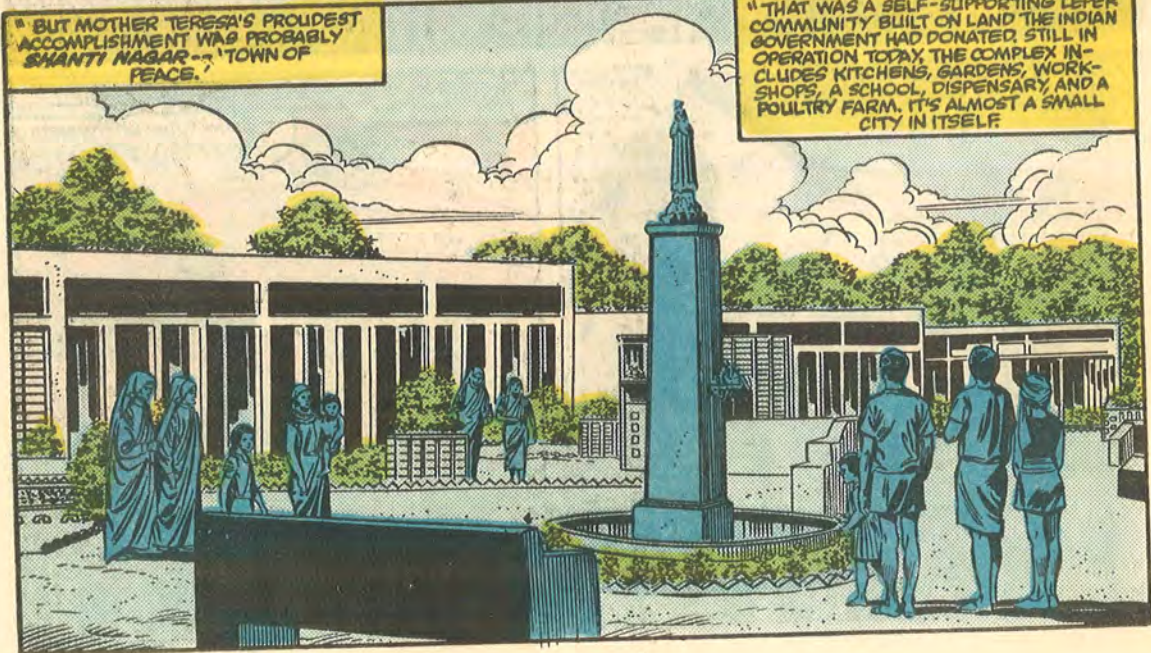
"THE MISSIONARIES ESTABLISHED A LEPROSY DAY, AND A LEPROSY FUND, WITH COLLECTION BOXES SPORTING A SLOGAN THAT'D MAKE MADISON AVENUE PROUD.."

**TOUCH THE LEPER
WITH YOUR
COMPASSION!**
MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY



"U.S. CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES DONATED A MOBILE CLINIC-- WHICH WAS USED TO ORGANIZE OPEN-AIR TREATMENT PAYS AT VARIOUS LOCALES SO THAT MANY LEPERS COULD AT LEAST BE RENDERED NON-INFECTIOUS."

"THAT WAS A SELF-SUPPORTING LEPER COMMUNITY BUILT ON LAND THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT HAD DONATED. STILL IN OPERATION TODAY, THE COMPLEX INCLUDES KITCHENS, GARDENS, WORKSHOPS, A SCHOOL, DISPENSARY, AND A POULTRY FARM. IT'S ALMOST A SMALL CITY IN ITSELF."



"BUT MOTHER TERESA'S PROUDEST ACCOMPLISHMENT WAS PROBABLY SHANTI NAGAR-- 'TOWN OF PEACE.'"



"IN SHANTI NAGAR, LEPERS WHOSE DISEASE HAS BEEN ARRESTED CAN GET TRAINING IN LIGHT INDUSTRIES, SO THAT THEY MIGHT BE ABLE TO RETURN AND FUNCTION IN NORMAL SOCIETY."



EVEN FOR THOSE WHO MAY NEVER LEAVE, SHANTI NAGAR OFFERS A HAVEN, A CHANCE AT HAPPINESS, A PLACE TO LIVE WHAT TIME THEY HAVE LEFT IN DIGNITY.



"THE GOOD WORK THE MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY WERE DOING PAID OFF IN OTHER WAYS, TOO. AFTER TEN YEARS, THEY PASSED THE PROBATIONARY PERIOD REQUIRED BY CANON LAW, AND WERE GIVEN PERMISSION TO OPERATE OUTSIDE THEIR DIOCESE."

"INVITATIONS TO ESTABLISH MISSIONS IN MANY OTHER PARTS OF INDIA WERE QUICKLY ANSWERED."



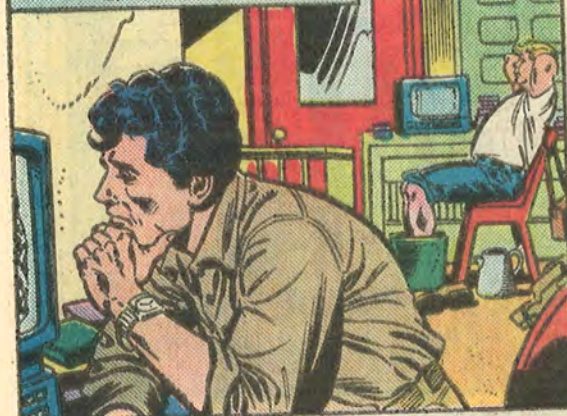
"AND EVERY ONE OF THEM WAS BASED ON MOTHER TERESA'S SIMPLE PHILOSOPHY.."

EACH PERSON, NO MATTER HOW TATTERED OR DISEASED, IS ONLY GOD IN A DISTRESSING DISGUISE.

TO SHOW OUR LOVE FOR HIM, WE MUST SHOW THAT SAME GENTLE CARING FOR EVERY INDIVIDUAL.

"SO I HAD MY CLUE -- SOMETHING ABOUT MOTHER TERESA'S ATTITUDE, SOMETHING ABOUT THE WAY SHE SAW PEOPLE, WAS WHAT MADE HER SO SPECIAL.

"BUT I WAS OUT OF RESEARCH MATERIAL. MOTHER TERESA BEGAN TRAVELING OUTSIDE INDIA IN 1960, AND HAD BECOME SORT OF A CITIZEN OF THE WORLD.



"AND FOR THAT PERIOD IN HER LIFE, I KNEW I'D NEED MORE THAN LOCAL NEWS ARTICLES...

TIME'S FLYING, MARTY-- AND SO ARE WE! UP AND AT 'EM, COMPADRE!

NO WAY, NICHOLAS. EVERY MAN'S GOT A LIMIT-- AND I'VE REACHED MINE.

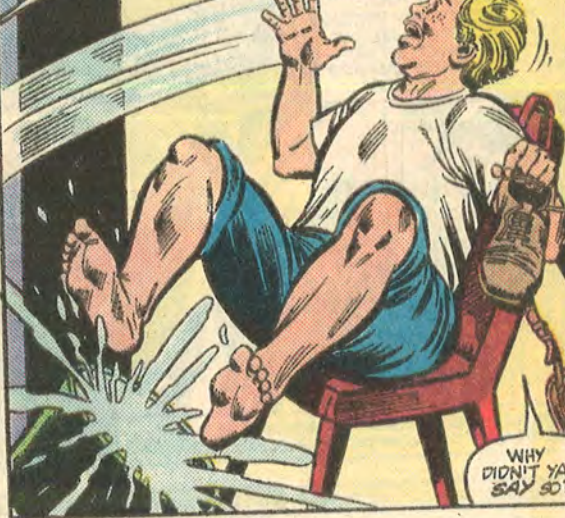


YOU'D NEED A DOZEN STEVEDORES WITH CROWBARS TO PRY ME OUTTA THIS CHAIR!

OKAY, BUDDY, SUIT YOURSELF. I'LL SEND YOU A POSTCARD WHEN I GET--



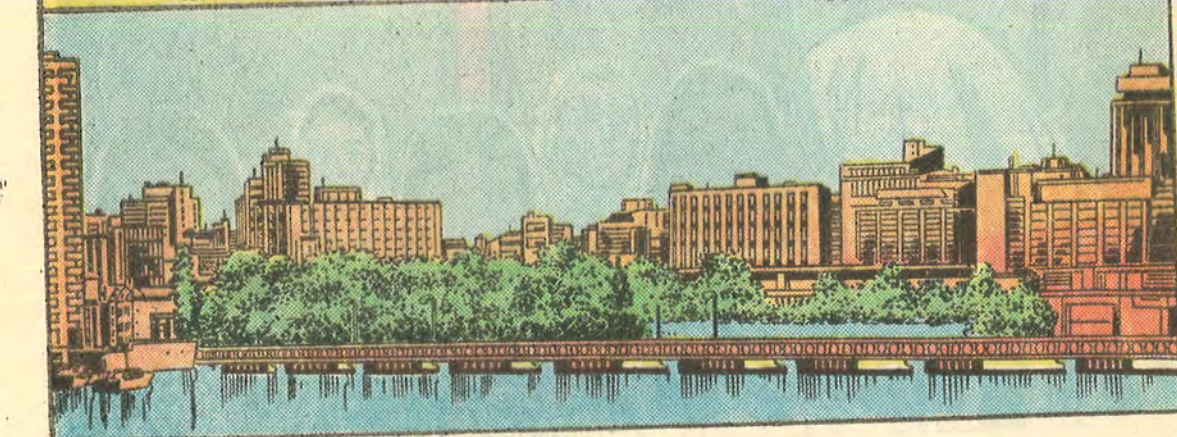
-- HOME! HOME?!



WHY DIDN'T YA SAY SO?

"I'D NEVER ADMIT IT TO MARTY, BUT I WAS GETTING A LITTLE TIRED OF HOPPING FROM CONTINENT TO CONTINENT MYSELF.

"AND SO A FEW HOURS LATER, EVEN THOUGH IT WAS WRAPPED IN HUMIDITY SO THICK YOU COULD'VE CUT A SLICE FOR LUNCH, MIAMI LOOKED AWFUL. GOOD TO ME!



"I STOPPED BY MY BUNGALOW IN CORAL GABLES JUST LONG ENOUGH FOR A SHOWER AND A CHANGE OF CLOTHES. I WAS THINKING ABOUT WHAT I'D LEARNED WHEN...

SAY, MISTER, COULD YOU SPARE FOUR BITS FOR A CUP OF COFFEE?

SORRY, ACE, I GAVE AT THE LAST CORNER--!



HERE, PAL, HERE'S A TWENTY-- HAVE YOURSELF A STEAK WITH THAT COFFEE.

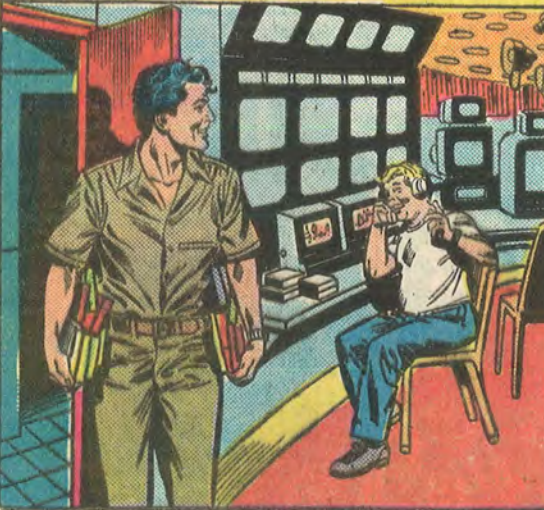
GOSH, MISTER, TH-TH-THANKS!



"YEAH, I KNOW IT WAS A SMALL GESTURE, NOT EXACTLY LIKE STARTING UP A LEPER CLINIC, BUT STILL...



"MARTY WAS GOING THROUGH THE FOOTAGE HE'D SHOT ON OUR TRIP WHEN I GOT TO THE CONTROL BOOTH.

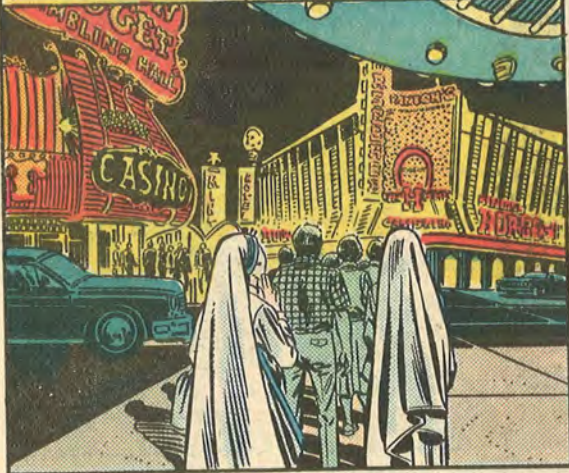


"I'D CHECKED OUT AN ARMLoad OF TAPES FROM WGN'S TAPE LIBRARY, AND I SET ABOUT BONING UP ON MOTHER TERESA'S MORE RECENT LIFE.

"IT WAS JUST AS IMPRESSIVE AS HER EARLY YEARS...



"HER FIRST JOURNEY OUTSIDE OF INDIA IN OVER THREE DECADES--ASIDE FROM A QUICK JUMP TO IRELAND TO TAKE HER INITIAL VOWS--WAS A TRIP TO, OF ALL PLACES, LAS VEGAS."



"SHE'D BEEN INVITED TO SPEAK AT A CONVENTION OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN..."

I THANK THE AMERICAN CATHOLICS FOR THEIR AID, BUT I WILL ASK FOR NO MORE. I DON'T BEG. I HAVE NOT BEGGED FROM THE TIME WE STARTED THE WORK.

I GO TO THE PEOPLE--THE HINDUS, THE MOHAMMEDANS, THE CHRISTIANS--AND I TELL THEM THAT I HAVE COME TO GIVE THEM A CHANCE TO DO SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL FOR GOD, AND THEY COME FORWARD.

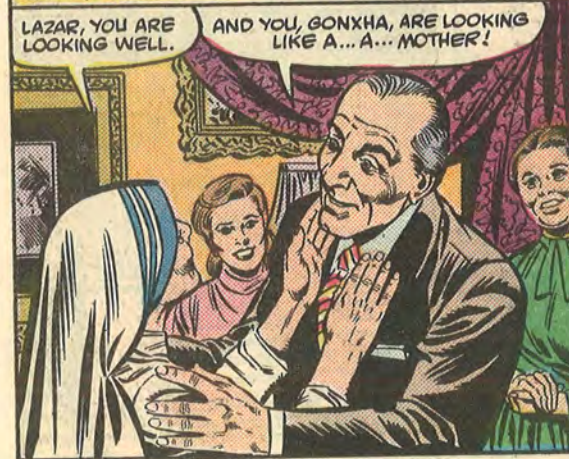


"BUT, JUST LIKE THE TIME SHE'D ASKED PERMISSION TO LIVE OUTSIDE OF A CONVENT, THE WHEELS OF CANON LAW MOVED SLOWLY."



"NOT THAT MOTHER TERESA SAT ON HER HEELS WAITING, YOU UNDERSTAND. NOPE, IN 1963 SHE FORMED THE MISSIONARY BROTHERS OF CHARITY, A MALE BRANCH OF THE ORDER THAT COULD PERFORM TASKS THAT WOULD BE DIFFICULT FOR THE SISTERS TO CARRY OUT."

"ON HER WAY BACK TO INDIA THAT SAME YEAR, 1960, MOTHER TERESA MADE SEVERAL IMPORTANT STOPS: ONE WAS A JOYFUL REUNION WITH HER BROTHER, LAZAR, WHOM SHE HADN'T SEEN SINCE 1928."



LAZAR, YOU ARE LOOKING WELL. AND YOU, GONXHA, ARE LOOKING LIKE A... A... MOTHER!

"ANOTHER WAS A LOT MORE SOBERING--IT WAS A SIDE TRIP WITH EILEEN EGAN OF NEW YORK'S CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES' TO THE NAZI PRISON CAMP AT DACHAU."



THAT... THAT HUMAN BEINGS COULD DO THESE THINGS... TO HUMAN BEINGS!

"SHE ALSO ORGANIZED A GROUP CALLED THE CO-WORKERS, HEADED BY HER OLD PAL, ANN BLAIKIE. THOUGH THE GROUP WASN'T FORMALLY APPROVED BY THE CHURCH FOR SEVERAL YEARS, THE CO-WORKERS WERE MADE UP OF MEN, WOMEN, AND CHILDREN OF ALL RELIGIONS WHO DEDICATED THEMSELVES TO THE SPIRIT OF SACRIFICE EXEMPLIFIED BY THE WORK OF MOTHER TERESA."



"OF COURSE, THE LADY THEY ALL LOOKED UP TO WASN'T IDLE HERSELF DURING THIS TIME. NO, SHE TRAVELED QUITE A BIT, AND AS ECONOMICALLY AS POSSIBLE..."

IF YOU WILL LET ME FLY FOR FREE, I WILL WORK FOR YOU AS A HELPER OR STEWARDESS.



"BUT IT WAS THE LAST STOPOVER THAT HAD MORE WIDE-RANGING RESULTS."



"THAT ONE WAS AT THE VATICAN."

"THERE, SHE PRESENTED A PETITION..."

THIS ASKS THAT THE MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY BE RECOGNIZED AS A SOCIETY OF PONTIFICAL RIGHT.

THAT WILL ALLOW US TO SET UP FOUNDATIONS ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD.



"IT WAS A PROBLEM THAT WAS SOLVED IN A UNIQUE WAY AT THE OPENING OF A NEW CHILDREN'S HOME IN DELHI, AN EVENT ATTENDED BY NONE OTHER THAN PRIME MINISTER NEHRU."



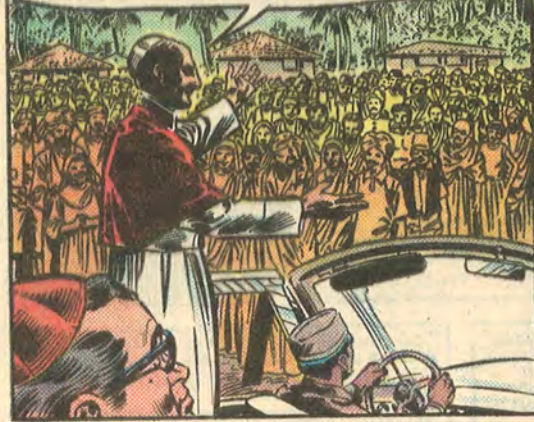
DO YOU WANT ME TO TELL YOU ABOUT OUR WORK?

NO, MOTHER, I KNOW ABOUT IT. THAT IS WHY I CAME.



I ALSO KNOW THAT YOU HAVE TO TRAVEL A LOT MORE THESE DAYS, SO I HAVE ARRANGED FOR A FREE AIR INDIA AIRLINES PASS FOR YOU.

"IT WAS AT ABOUT THIS TIME THAT POPE PAUL VI VISITED INDIA, AND AS HE ADDRESSED A CHEERING CROWD IN BOMBAY..."



"BUT, WHEN THE SURPRISE GIFT WAS PRESENTED..."

WHEN WILL YOU USE THE LIMOUSINE, MOTHER?
NEVER. I ALWAYS TRAVEL LOWEST CLASS. BUT... HMMM...
I KNOW! WE WILL RAFFLE IT OFF TO FUND OUR NEW LEPER RETREAT!



"AND SHE DID. A FITTING WAY TO PASS THE TIME WHILE WAITING FOR WORD ON HER PETITION FROM THE VATICAN."

"THEN, IN 1965, THE POPE GRANTED HIS RECOGNITION --"



"--AND THE MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY SPREAD OVER THE WORLD LIKE A LOVING BLANKET. THE FIRST NON-INDIAN FOUNDATION WAS ESTABLISHED IN COCOROTE, VENEZUELA ON JULY 26, 1965. IT WAS FOLLOWED BY A MISSION CENTER IN THE SLUMS OF ROME, OPENED AT THE SPECIAL REQUEST OF THE HOLY FATHER HIMSELF."

"EVEN IN THE GOOD OLD UNITED STATES--SPECIFICALLY, THE BRONX IN NEW YORK--THE SISTERS SET UP FOUNDATIONS TO HELP THE POOR AND NEEDY, THE SICK AND THE FRIGHTENED."



"AND THE SISTERS THEMSELVES WERE OFTEN HELPED IN WAYS THAT ONE MIGHT CALL... WELL... MIRACULOUS."
I'M SORRY, MOTHER. SUPPLIES HAVE RUN OUT. WE HAVE NO FOOD TODAY OR TOMORROW.
BUT WE HAVE 7,000 POOR AND NEEDY PEOPLE TO FEED!



"HOWEVER, BY 9:00 THAT SAME MORNING..."

MOTHER! THE GOVERNMENT HAS CLOSED ALL SCHOOLS FOR TODAY! NO ONE KNOWS WHY, BUT THEY ARE SENDING ALL OF THE SCHOOL BREAD TO US!
THEN THE POOR WILL EAT-- MORE BREAD THAN THEY'VE EVER EATEN IN THEIR LIVES!



"AND, ON ANOTHER OCCASION..."

THAT'S RIGHT, MOTHER, WE NEED 50,000 RUPEES FOR A CHILDREN'S HOME HERE IN ASRA.
I REGRET, SISTER, BUT WE DO NOT HAVE 50,000 RUPEES.



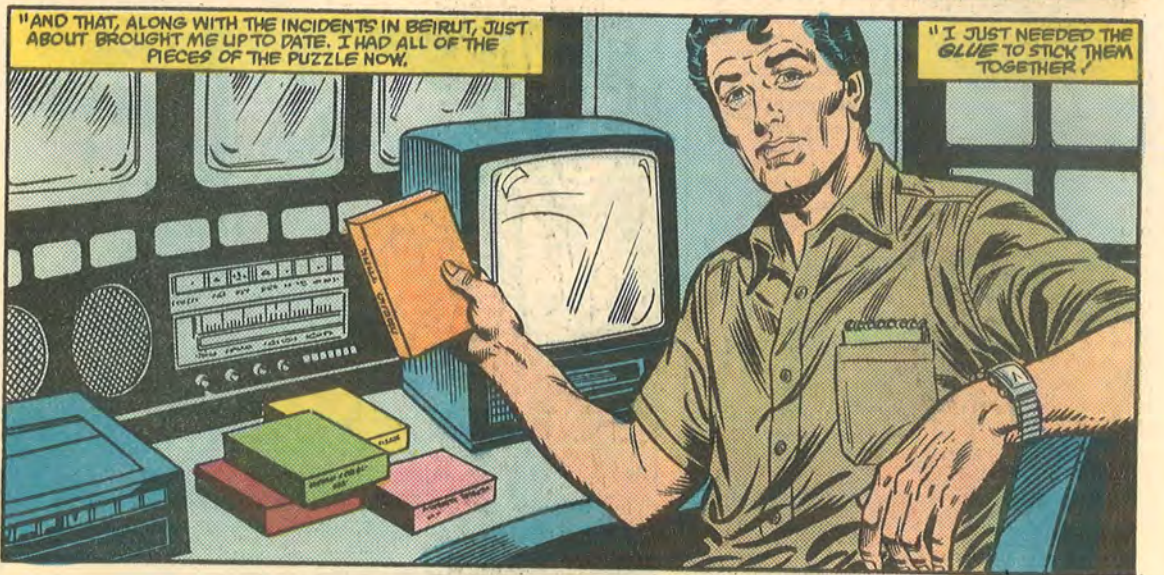
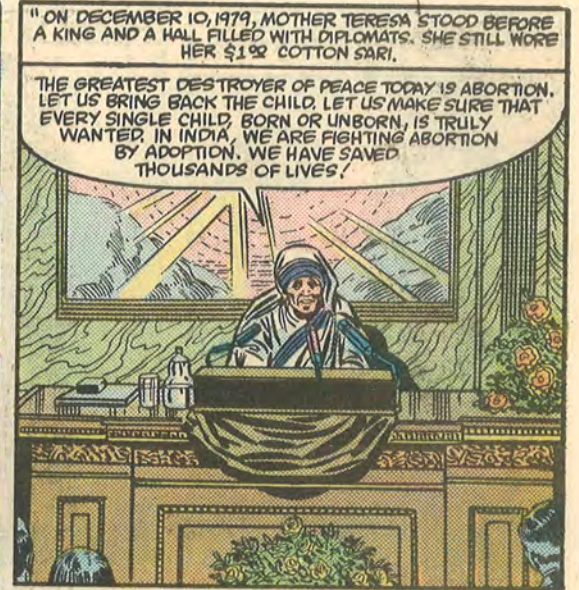
"THEN, LATER THAT DAY..."

MOTHER! A NEWSPAPER JUST CALLED! YOU HAVE BEEN GIVEN THE HASSANAWA AWARD FROM THE PHILIPPINES!
AND HOW MUCH IS THE AWARD?



ABOUT 50,000 RUPEES!
AH! GOD MUST WANT A CHILDREN'S HOME IN ASRA.





"AND SOMEHOW, I KNEW WHERE I'D FIND THAT GLOBE. JUST AS I KNEW I'D HAVE TO GO AFTER IT--"



"--ALONE!"



"BY THE TIME I GOT BACK TO CALCUTTA, I WAS DETERMINED TO TALK TO MOTHER TERESA IN PERSON, AND I HAD MY ARGUMENTS READY."



"AT FIRST THE SISTERS WERE RELUCTANT, KNOWING HOW BUSY THEIR LEADER WAS. BUT FINALLY, I CONVINCED THEM THAT I WASN'T THERE IN MY PROFESSIONAL CAPACITY, AND MOMENTS LATER..."



"I'VE STUDIED YOUR LIFE, MOTHER, I KNOW HOW MUCH GOOD YOU'VE DONE. BUT WHAT I WANT TO KNOW IS... WHY? I MEAN, WHAT MAKES YOU SO SPECIAL THAT YOU CAN DO SO MUCH?"

"I AM BUT GOD'S PENCIL, WITH WHICH TO WRITE WHAT HE LIKES. THE LOVE I GIVE IS GOD'S LOVE, BECAUSE THE WORK I DO IS GOD'S WORK. PERHAPS YOU WOULD UNDERSTAND THAT BETTER, MR. BUGATTI--"



"--IF YOU WERE TO SHARE THAT WORK."

"WHEN I REALIZED WHAT SHE MEANT, I FELT MY THROAT TIGHTEN. BUT I KNEW WHAT I HAD TO DO..."

"GIVING TWENTY BUCKS TO A STREET BEGGAR IS ONE THING--BUT WADING INTO A ROOMFUL OF DEAD AND DYING PEOPLE IS SOMETHING ELSE!"



"I DON'T KNOW WHICH I FELT MOST STRONGLY WITH THOSE FIRST STEPS: FEAR, DISGUST... OR MAYBE BECAUSE OF THE OTHER TWO, SHAME."

"THEN ONE OF THEM TOUCHED ME--A WOMAN WITH SORES ON HER FACE AND HANDS, BARELY CONSCIOUS. MY FIRST INSTINCT WAS TO PULL AWAY."



"BUT THEN I SAW HER EYES. THEY WERE WARM EYES, GENTLE AND WIDE, LOOKING AT ME WITH A GRATITUDE THAT REACHED LIKE SOFT FINGERS DOWN TO MY VERY SOUL."



"AND WHEN SHE SMILED AT ME, WEAKLY... I FOUND MYSELF SMILING BACK."

"AND THAT'S WHEN IT ALL CAME TOGETHER, ALL THE PIECES: THE EARLY LIFE OF SKOPJE, THE RELIGIOUS TRAINING IN IRELAND, THE INSPIRATION, THE SCHOOLS, THE CLINICS, THE AWARDS."



"THEY ALL STEMMED FROM ONE TRAIT, ONE CHARACTERISTIC."

"IT'S A TRAIT THAT ALL OF US POSSESS, BUT ONE WE USUALLY TRAP BEHIND WALLS OF SELFISHNESS, CLOAK IN MASKS OF EXCUSES. AND WITH A JOLT I REALIZED THAT WE COULD ALL BE LIKE MOTHER TERESA, IF WE'D ONLY LET OURSELVES."



"BECAUSE WHEN THE BOTTOM LINE IS DRAWN, THE THING THAT MAKES MOTHER TERESA SPECIAL IS, QUITE SIMPLY..."

"...SHE CARES!"



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PHOTOS: WIDE WORLD PHOTOS

